









## THE LEADING LADY

By ARCHIBALD EYRE

Author of "The Trifler," "The Custodian," "The Girl in Waiting," etc.

## CHAPTER XV. (Continued).

## ALICE'S APPEAL.

Mr. Watts, the Radical candidate, obviously impressed with Alice, although he had only made her acquaintance a few minutes previously, and in the house of Sir Llewellyn Williams, his political agent, he did not attempt to disguise the fact.

"I brought his chair nearer her," he said, "quick to realise the impression had made, smiled sweetly, and, putting her voice, said, 'You're sending for Parliament against Sir Llewellyn, aren't you?'"

Mr. Watts nodded.

"Listen, Mr. Watts, a poor boy, son of Sir Llewellyn's lodge-keeper, has got into trouble and has been arrested, and Sir Llewellyn desires to go bail for him. His wife won't let him. Every one in the village takes the boy's part and thinks Sir Llewellyn very cruel and harsh. I think so too. Do you follow me?"

"Not yet," said Alice. "If you were to bail the boy out, could make him over so popular in the village. Now do you see?"

Mr. Watts hit his knee. "I've got you. What is the boy's name?"

"Tom Griffiths. He's a good boy, sure. I am convinced he isn't guilty. How old is he?"

"Not fifteen. He has blue eyes. You can't mistake him."

"Are they as blue as yours, Miss Kirby?"

"Hush, hush."

"I've not met an actress before," said Alice. "You told me, and I'm sorry now. You won't forget about poor Tom Griffiths, will you?" asked Alice anxiously. "How they will cheer in the village when it's known what you've done!"

"Thanks for the tip, Miss Kirby. You're a good 'un."

"It's worth a hundred votes to you."

Mr. Watts chuckled. "I'll run over there very afternoon."

"Haven't you better start pretty soon?" observed Alice. "Sir Llewellyn might change his mind."

But Mr. Watts was in pleasant company and showed no signs of haste. Bored of her natural protectress, poor Mrs. Watts was in and out of the room, and Sir Llewellyn insisted on having her in polite conversation.

"Are you sure you won't have tea?" he asked.

"No, thank you."

"Perhaps something else—a little beer?"

"William!" ejaculated Mrs. Watts in a faint voice. But her husband took no notice. She subsided into her seat and sighed uneasily. Reginald was equally restless. He rose and went to the window.

"How engrossed your husband and Miss Kirby are," went on Lady Williams.

"William!" quavered Mrs. Watts. "This time she managed to get fairly near her feet."

"You will forgive me," said Lady Williams, rising. "If I do not return your kind call, but Sir Llewellyn is particular."

"You need not apologise, Lady Williams," replied Mrs. Watts tremulously. "I do not expect you to call. I shall not be at home if you do."

"Ah," said Lady Williams with a smile. "I see you appreciate the difference of our status. As a woman of distinction, you are who we must court. As a woman of the people, you are who we must court."

"Right, dear," he rose and turned to Sir Llewellyn. "A nice place you have here—a delightful place. Not likely to be in the market? Eh, Reginald?"

"No, not likely, I think," said Sir Llewellyn, with a timid glance at his wife.

"Come, William, we mustn't keep them," said Mrs. Watts. "Hush!" cried Lady Williams. "Have you come here in one of your vans?"

Mr. Watts heard this remark and looked slowly from the spittoon to the face of Lady Williams to the smiling form of his wife.

"If it is ever to be sold," he said, "you might drop me a line."

"And what would you do, Mr. Watts?" asked Lady Williams, "if you were for sale?"

"Buy it, madam."

Lady Williams gave a shrill laugh, partly from the question of money, and partly from the fact that she was not comfortable in a place like this. "I shouldn't live in it myself. But could suit my foreman down to the ground."

Mr. Watts turned to Alice. "I hope to meet you again, Miss Kirby."

"Thank you," she held out her hand, and he shook it cordially.

"Good-bye, all," his wife flattered and he followed her, apparently pleased with himself.

Alice crossed the room and sat by Lady Williams' side. "I have rather a feeling for you," she said. "I think Mr. Watts has told me."

"The people in the village think Sir Llewellyn hasn't behaved kindly to Tom Griffiths. They think he oughtn't to have left the poor boy in prison."

Lady Williams sniffed. "The opinions of the villagers do not interest me."

"Oh," said Alice, "but don't you see the advantage this gives Mr. Watts? He is going to offer himself as bail, and everybody will regard him as a hero for doing so. He estimates it will get him at least two hundred votes."

Lady Williams started to her feet. "What is this?"

"Alice shook her head regretfully. "The afraid he's been too clever for her. These votes may make all the difference, he tells me. I am so sorry Sir Llewellyn."

"I'll out-manoeuvre him yet," cried

Lady Williams. "We'll see whether the magistratus will accept him in preference to Llewellyn." She rang the bell violently. "Llewellyn, get your hat."

"When a servant appeared she ordered the brougham."

"But don't forget," said Alice softly, "that it isn't merely the question of bail. Mr. Watts is convinced that Tarlington people are right in believing in Tom's innocence."

"And am I not convinced of his innocence?" cried Lady Williams. "Llewellyn, we'll bring that evil-minded lad back with us in the brougham."

"If you're not too late," murmured Alice.

"Are you ready, Llewellyn? Why doesn't that woman bring me my hat? You ought to have foreseen this."

"I did suggest—," began her husband mildly.

"Oh, don't tell me how wise you

are after the event," retorted his wife tartly. "Just see if the brougham is outside."

"I am sorry to have caused this upset," remarked Alice sweetly, "but I thought I ought to tell you."

"You did quite right," said Lady Williams. "It is Llewellyn's lack of foresight I blame. I'll have that criminal laid on the platform at the meeting to-morrow, and he shall hold my hand the whole time. That will prevent me from boxing his ears at any rate."

"Poor Tom has no lack of champions now," said Alice, smiling at Reginald.

Reginald laughed. "Your ingenuity startles me. When we are married, I shall have to be on the alert."

"She sighed. 'Ah, when we are married—'"

"Who soon is that to be, Alice?"

"Who can say? Reginald, would you feel it very, very much if I were to say—Never?"

"It would break my heart."

"Oh, no. But I sometimes fear it would break mine. Reginald, I love you. Oh, how I wish I didn't love you! But I wish twenty times more that you didn't care for me."

"Why do you get into these strange moods, Alice? They make me uneasy. You never used to be like this."

"No, not when we were merely friends. Let's return to friendship."

"We must be friends and something more."

"But at the worst, friends. What-over happens we will remain friends. Promise me this, Reginald."

"Of course, promise."

"I am going to kiss you, just once on the brow as I would kiss my own son—if I had one," she kissed him.

"And now I am going to kiss you where I would kiss my wife if I had one. He put his arms round her and kissed her on the lips."

"I wish you hadn't done that, Reginald," she said. She stood and looked at him mournfully, and the tears glistened in her eyes.

**CHAPTER XVI.**

**THE GARDEN PARTY.**

The garden party was in progress, but Alice had not yet arrived, and Lady Williams was greatly excited. When Reginald appeared with his father she asked if he had seen her.

Reginald was surprised. "Why, isn't she here?"

Lady Williams gave a little gesture of exasperation. "She went on her lunch and I haven't seen her since. And now it's quite late. People are beginning to go."

"What is the trouble, Reginald?" asked his father, who had seen, if he had not heard this hurried colloquy. They had moved away from their overwrought hostess.

Lady Williams was worried because Miss Kirby hadn't turned up yet.

"Lord St. Quentin snorted. 'These actresses are full of whims. Very likely she has taken the pet at someone.'

"Alice is not like that. But Reginald was decidedly worried. 'I can't understand it. Let us just walk through the garden.'

"You are mistaken if you think I am going to trudge about in this hot sun in search of a woman I don't want particularly to meet," said his father.

Reginald was staring about in all directions. "Please wait here, father. I'll go and have a look round."

Reginald made a hurried tour of the grounds without finding the object of his search. Noticing his hostess disengaged he went to her.

"Have you no notion where she has gone?"

"All I know is that a note was handed to her at lunch time. She got up from the table at once. I asked her where she was going, but she took no notice. She simply ran out of the room."

"By the way," said Reginald suddenly, "what was the result of the general campaign to bail out that boy?"

Lady Williams stamped upon the

ground with vigour. "We got to the police station before that horrid Mr. Watts, but he came in while we were there. The officer told us we should have to go to New. That's twelve miles away. I determined to drive over at once. I congratulated myself on having the start of the brewer who had sent his carriage home with his wife. But we hadn't gone more than a mile when he passed us on an enormous motor-car—travelling at nearly fifty miles an hour. He hardly slowed down as he rushed by. Disgraceful! Disgraceful!"

"And you gave up?"

"Yes."

Reginald left his hostess to go in search of his father, but Lord St. Quentin had got tired of waiting, and had left the garden party in disgust. Although he would not have admitted it, he had been eager to see the woman who had infuriated his son. He had made inquiries about her with favourable results. He had ascertained that not only was she respectably connected but that her behaviour had always been most circumspect. She was reported to be amassing wealth at a healthy rate. All these things had their due effect on his mind. It was, therefore, a distinct "set-back" to discover that she cared so little for his countenance that she absented herself from the function which he had attended for the sole purpose of meeting her. He took his walk home, and his way took him through the Tarlington High-street.

Outside the bank he came across Mr. Wilton. He stopped.

"Good-day, Mr. Wilton. Have you not finished your labours yet? You have been here nearly a week, have you not?"

"Yes, my lord," Mr. Wilton flushed in his bash way. "I am afraid there is more serious trouble here than I anticipated."

Lord St. Quentin frowned. "What do you mean? Have you discovered further shortages?"

"I am beginning to fear that the boy has been in league with some more experienced criminal."

"Nonsense," snapped his lordship, angrily.

"I may be wrong," returned Mr. Wilton apologetically. "But a very suspicious incident occurred to-day. Farmer Holyoak brought in his pass-book when I happened to be at the counter. Mr. Brooks was out, and the book was handed to me. I glanced at it, happening to remember Mr. Holyoak's name was in a list I had made of over-drafts. To my surprise the pass-book indicated a considerable balance."

"I hope you have made a mistake," Lord St. Quentin said curtly. "Have you verified your suspicions?"

"Yes."

"And you found a discrepancy between the ledger account and the pass-book?"

"I regret to say I did."

Lord St. Quentin compressed his lips.

"There has been intolerable remissness somewhere," he said. "This branch is disgracefully mismanaged. I'll have Mr. Brooks give an explanation to-morrow."

"I have not spoken to Mr. Brooks," said Mr. Wilton slowly.

"Why not?"

"It seems hardly possible that any such fraud could have been perpetrated without his cognisance. I decided to see you first."

Lord St. Quentin looked round sharply. A little girl was standing just within the doorway.

"What do you want?" he asked abruptly. The girl gave him a startled look and fled.

"That's Mr. Brooks' daughter," said Mr. Wilton. "I did not notice she was standing there."

"She must have heard our conversation. This is very annoying. It was not very discreet of you to begin a conversation of this private nature in the roadway. Let us walk on."

"I will close down this branch," said Lord St. Quentin. "I have kept it open merely because of my personal connection with the place. It is of no particular value to the bank, as you know, and it seems to me."

"I have a fatal facility for breeding trouble," said Alice.

"The total loss is not very large."

"It is not the loss of money, but of prestige," returned his lordship. "I have been very doubtful about Mr. Brooks since I came here," said Mr. Wilton. "On more than one occasion I have noticed him the worse for liquor. In fact, only this afternoon—"

Lord St. Quentin glanced at his watch. "It is too late to telegraph to the head office to-day, but will write to-night for a trustworthy man to be sent down at once. In the meantime please see Mr. Brooks, and tell him he is suspended. Get from him his keys, and take all necessary steps to prevent him from entering the business part of the premises again."

**CHAPTER XVII.**

**TOM.**

The letter which had been handed to Alice at lunch was from Mr. Watts. It ran as follows:

"Dear Miss Kirby—"

"I got the boy—a nice boy as you said, and my wife has taken to him tremendously—out of good yesterday. As it was late I took him home for the night. This morning we drove through the village, but I'm bound to admit there was no excitement. In fact, no one seemed to care. My election agent is dubious about the whole thing."

"So I am dumping him at his mother's cottage, and I send you this line just to tell you what happened."

"Yours sincerely,"

"Alice read this note hurriedly, and then sprang to her feet. Her heart cried out for her son. She hastened to the lodge, at the door of which she stood for some minutes before she mustered courage to enter. She could hear the sound of voices. At last she pushed the door open. The boy was kneeling on the ground with his face hidden in Deborah's lap, and Deborah was smoothing his hair and calling him her "bonny lamb."

"Give him to me," cried Alice almost harshly. "Give him to me."

"Why doesn't he come to me?" Alice wailed. "Deborah, it is you who are keeping him back. You know you do not care for him. You want to hurt me."

Deborah pushed the boy gently. "Go to Miss—the lady, Tom. Go at once."

The boy rose obediently, but full of bewilderment. He moved towards Alice. She waited until he was within arm's length, and then she gripped him almost fiercely, pressing her lips to his and kissing him again and again. Her tears rained on his face.

The boy bore it mutely. He had a confused notion that this was a part of his punishment. He was restless at the sight of his mother, and he longed to see her, but he was afraid to go. He didn't want a wicked boy, she said to Deborah. She sat down and hid her face in her hands. "Tell him who I am, Deborah."

"Tom turned from the one woman to the other with a weary wonder. He was a slim lad, with the delicately featured face and the large pathetic eyes of his mother."

"Tom, Deborah began, 'that lady loves you very dearly. Tom regarded her with a shadow of resentment. "Tell him I am his mother," murmured Alice. "Tell him that at once."

"This lady is your mother, Tom. Your own mother! I am only—only the nurse who brought you up."

"My mother!" he murmured in a low voice. He looked at her without interest.

Alice rose and put her arms round him again, but gently this time. He disengaged himself with a prim courtesy which in the circumstances was almost ludicrous. "I hope you don't kiss me because you think you ought to," he said. "I don't see how any one can care for me just now."

"He always talks in an old-fashioned way," said Deborah exclaiming.

"Later on," said the boy, "when I have come out of prison—"

"But you are not going back to prison," cried Alice passionately. "I am not going to let you leave me again."

"The inspector said I should have to go to prison if I could not say I was not guilty, and I can't say that."

"Guilty or not guilty, you shan't go to prison."

"Your mother will try and get you off," said Deborah, "but if she doesn't succeed, why you must be brave and wait."

"I will be brave," said the boy, "but she is crying and it makes it more difficult."

Alice dried her eyes. "You are quite right. When we do wrong we must bear our punishment bravely. But you mustn't think I shrink from you, Tom. Have I uttered a single word of reproach?"

"No, but your eyes have," said Tom.

"Then my eyes can't know how I feel. My heart is full of love for you and I want you to be full of love for me. A mother's love and a son's love. It is the strongest kind of love in the whole world."

"Deborah said I will have tea," Deborah said briskly. She moved about the cottage with unnecessary elation.

"Deborah doesn't like this kind of talk," said Alice, "and she is quite right. But I do so want you to understand that you mustn't fear that I am shrinking from you. I love you more than any one in the whole world."

"More than any one," she repeated with vehemence and her look challenged Deborah.

It was late in the afternoon before Alice left the cottage. As chance had it, she met Reginald as she went up the Avenue.

"Where have you been, Alice?" he cried crossly. "This is a little too bad."

"Don't blame me, Reginald," she said meekly. "I have an explanation. I will give it you at the meeting to-night. You will be sure to be there, won't you? Now don't scold me. Lady Williams will do that."

**CHAPTER XVIII.**

**IN VINO VERITAS.**

Mr. Wilton, the accountant, went down the narrow staircase leading from Mr. Brooks' living-room above the bank with a big bunch of keys in his hand.

Upstairs in the room he had just left, Mr. Brooks sat in an armchair staring at the toes of his carpet slippers. There was terror on his blotched face and tears of self-pity in his watery eyes. He staggered to his feet after a little and fetched a bottle from the dark corner of a cupboard. He filled a glass and his teeth chinked on its rim.

"After thirty years, man and boy," he muttered. "Thirty years!" He drank again. "What next?" he asked aloud and glanced round furtively. And next—next—next—next! He moved feebly. The liquor trickled down the thin straggly hair of his beard.

He wandered restlessly round the room, went to the window and stood staring out till his eyes fell on a policeman. He drew back frightened and when he looked at the still erect figure, though the daylight, he drew through the window and peered through the lattice of the blind. The constable was cracking jokes with a burly farmer and roaring with laughter at his own retorts.

"A step at the door brought back his terror, until he realised that it was only his daughter. She entered quietly and giving one glance at the bottle on the table and the empty glass, went to the window and pulled down the blind."

"Your tea won't be long," Norah said.

"What is tea to me?" said Mr. Brooks.

"What has happened?" Norah asked.

"I'll look after you," said Tom stoutly. "I'm not going back to prison. My mother says she'll see to that. You don't know my mother, do you?"

"Of course I know your mother," said Tom. "She's a splendid woman. He had already forgotten the injunctions to secrecy he had received."

A few minutes past eight that evening Alice knocked at Mrs. Griffiths' door.

"Deborah, are you alone?"

"Yes, Mrs. Alice."

Alice entered hastily. "I am going to Lord St. Quentin to plead for my son. I must go as you."

"As me?"

"Yes, yes. He will not listen to me if he knows I am Alice Kirby. I am going as Tom's mother. There is no deception in that, at any rate."

"I don't understand."

"Let me see your print gown and your shawl. And also that straw poke bonnet you sometimes wear. Quick, Deborah, I must not lose a minute."

When Alice was dressed in Deborah's clothes she had her a half laughing, a half serious farewell and crept through the iron gates into the highway.

**CHAPTER XIX.**

**THE INTERVIEW.**

Lord St. Quentin was in a softened mood. Two things had contributed to this, the one arising directly from the other. His son's dejection had led him to broach one of his few remaining bottles of a certain famous vintage of port. He had done this with a view of cheering his son, but the results were more clearly apparent in himself. He was as nearly genial as he could be.

"You had much better give up your notion of going to that meeting," he said. "We'll have a smoke and a quiet talk together."

"I must go," said Reginald. "I promised to speak."

"You had better stay here," said Lord St. Quentin.

"But I promised—"

"The play-actress?"

"You mean Miss Kirby?" said his son rebukingly.

"I beg her pardon."

"I can forgive your speaking slightly of her, for you don't know her. When you know her, I shall not have to forgive you."

"It is not my fault I don't know her."

Reginald rose restlessly. "I know it is not."

"Did she tell you why she didn't turn up at the garden party?"

"She has promised to explain to-night. Will you make me a promise, father?"

"What kind of promise?"

"When you meet Miss Kirby, will you put aside your prejudices and judge her solely by herself? Someone told me that your success in life has been due to a wonderful faculty for weighing up men and things as they actually are."

Lord St. Quentin was pleased in spite of himself.

"I dare say it's true enough. But when you tell me that, you're doing her wrong. It's all right. Don't be so silly. I'll go away. Although she's a rugged defendant, she's alleged, would not leave her, and she threatened to scream out loudly. Defendant then ran away."

**A SUCCESSFUL ALIBI.**

In cross-examination prosecutor said that it had been snowing all the afternoon on the date of the offence, and the night was a cold one. She had had a child, but the case against the father did not fail, as he was ordered to pay 3s. 6d. a week towards its maintenance. The time occupied in the assault by defendant was quite five minutes. It occurred quite close to her own home, but quite a half hour from defendant's home—P.O. Nash, of the Surrey Constabulary, stated that prosecutor lodged a complaint with the police and furnished them with a description of a man whom, she alleged, had assaulted her. Acting on information received he took prosecutor to Woburn Cottages, where she identified defendant and charged him with the offence. Prisoner made no reply to the charge. Mr. Lynn submitted that prosecutor was under an entire misapprehension when she accused defendant of assaulting her. Apart, continued counsel, from the impossibility of her uncorroborated story, defendant was not on the scene at all, but was actually in bed at his own home at the time. Evidence called to this effect, and the jury returned a verdict of not guilty.

**EAST COAST HOLIDAYS.**

A charming and most artistic booklet, entitled "East Coast Holidays," written by Percy Lindley, has just been issued by the Great Eastern Ry. Co. It is a concise and entertaining guide to the principal seaside resorts of East Anglia, replete with exhaustive information, and a list of golf links is also given. This little work should be heartily welcomed by those about to take their annual vacation.

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"I'll look after you," said Tom stoutly. "I'm not going back to prison. My mother says she'll see to that



## MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

## THE WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

## COVENT GARDEN OPERA.

## "OTELLO" AND "CARMEN."

Time has a way of slipping rapidly by and making memories for those who have by no means reached life's reminiscent stage. It is 16 years, for instance, since Mme. Melba first appeared as Desdemona in Verdi's "Otello," and we remember well how great a success she then achieved in the part. "Otello" had been put on the shelf since the elemental Tamagno used to sing the part of the jealousy-maddened Moor. It has now been brought down again, and after the performance this week we should not be surprised if it returns to the repertoire of the constantly repeated. For not only has the work some magnificent moments, it also afforded Mme. Melba the opportunity of showing how much she still has her singing, and incidentally to what a remarkable degree she is winning to herself added histrionic gifts. The liquid purity of her singing was a delight in the Willow Song, and as for the "Ave Maria" it was even for Mme. Melba something of a revelation. Recollections of the greatest vocal Otello may have given one the impression that Signor Zenobello's Moor was temperamentally, as well as physically, on a reduced scale. The clever young singer, who has made such tremendous strides this season, has not the figure or the voice of a Tamagno. In the latter respect, save in those moments of accumulated passion when Tamagno used to shake the very rafters, Signor Zenobello is, of course, an immeasurably fine singer, and, if one missed the vocal torrents of rage, one had compensation in delightful singing throughout. This, too, in spite of the fact that Signor Zenobello was indisposed, which must be set against any lack of fire occasionally apparent in his acting. Then, again, he was undertaking the rôle for the first time, a sufficiently trying ordeal in any circumstances. "Otello" is to be repeated to-morrow night, and, as Signor Zenobello is now fully recovered, a still finer performance may be anticipated. The lags of Signor Scotti was disappointing; it lacked subtlety, and he was not in good voice.

One other performance calls for notice, that of "Carmen," with Mme. Maria Gay in the title part, and Signor Marais as Don Jose. The tenor acquitted himself well, and Mme. Gay gave that reading of realism and devilry which has already made her famous in the part. Perhaps the most interesting feature of the performance was the debut of Mme. Rider Kelsey, who sang the music of Micaëla. She was obviously nervous, but her voice is of such charming quality, and she uses it so delightfully, that one could not fail to be impressed.

## PARAGON.

## M. JOSE IN "THE STRIKE."

An excellent reception has been accorded M. Edouard Jose on his first appearance in London at the Mile End-road hall in "The Strike," which is founded on the late M. Coppée's "La Greve des Forgerons." It is described as "a dramatic monologue," and as a French workman, M. Jose stands in the witness-box of a small court, on trial for the slaying of a fellow-workman. His recitation takes the form of an appeal to the jury after his advocate has concluded the address on prisoner's behalf. In dramatic fashion the accused man tells how he, a blacksmith, who has laboured for nearly 50 years at his trade, is induced by younger workmen to join them in a strike against their master. He is talked over by their plausibility, and for the first two or three weeks all was well, for he had saved a little money. But then came the pinch of hunger. His wife and children were starving in their wretched hovel, and in despair he sought his fellow-workmen and begged them to let him go back to work. They heard him unmoved, for they had money and food, and one man taunted him with the cry, "You skunk." The old fellow challenges the scoffer to a duel, their smith's hammers as weapons, and in his rage he lays his opponent dead at his feet with one terrible blow. Will the jury convict him he asks. There is a moment's silence. The conclusion of his speech, and the foreman returns the verdict, "Not guilty." The curtain falls as the old fellow is overcome by emotion.

It was certainly a triumph for M. Jose to hold the attention of an Eastern audience, and he has not only easily difficult to please. M. Jose, though speaking with a strong French accent, has a very clear enunciation, and had no difficulty in making himself perfectly understood.

## TIVOLI.

FRAGON AND THE LICENSING BILL. Fragon's latest song, "Licensing Reform," is sure to catch on. It is a rousing reception at the Tivoli each night. The writer of the words, Mr. Arthur Wimpshire (Fragon), as we have furnished an easy-going tune, imagines a seeker for information questioning first the Prime Minister, then Winston Churchill, next Keir Hardie, Mr. Balfour, and others on the subject. Here is what happened on one of the visits: So off I went to Winston, whose address I chanced to know, and I found him just returning from a car in the hall. And on his riding-breeches, in a manner rather neat. He'd stuck some Dundee marmalade to help him keep his seat. I said, "Good morning, Winston, all your views are rather warm. Please tell me your opinion about Licensing Reform." He said, "I'm pleased to see you, step inside and have a drink. And then I'll try to tell you just exactly what I think. I fancy I shall have to put this Bill upon the shelf. I generally do with Bills I haven't made myself. Of course you know by me alone the Liberal party's led, Churchill, and three cheers for a swollen head!" There are other good turns in the

Tivoli programme, including Marie Lloyd, who looks very engaging in the dress of her Directorate song.

## NOTES AND NEWS.

## THEATRES.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances the date of the production of "Triton" at the Scala Theatre has been changed to the 10th and 11th inst.

Mrs. Dwyer Carter intends to revive at this theatre during the autumn several of the Gilbert-Sullivan operas reproduced last season.

Miss Vera Renger will bring out at the Court next Thursday afternoon "The Boys," a farcical comedy. "The Boys," produced by her a month since at Croydon.

The Theatrical Commission officially appointed to prohibit, under penalty of a fine, the wearing of hats of excessive dimensions in all playhouses.

Miss Vera Renger announces a success of "The Boys," a new farcical comedy by H. Riton at the Court Theatre on Thursday next at 3 p.m., when she will be supported by Miss Florence Lloyd and several other leading artists.

George Moore has been engaged to appear as "The Baron" in the forthcoming pantomime at the King's Theatre, Hammer Smith. We understand that Marie Delon is to play the rôle of the Baron's wife in the same production as Maud Marian.

Mr. Ernest R. Abbott, whose successful visit last December to the Broadway Theatre, New Cross, with "Sapho" will be remembered by players, is to-morrow commencing a four weeks' season there with his well-known company.

The provincial rights of "Mrs. Dot" have now been settled. By arrangement with Miss Mary Palfrey, Miss Emma Hutchinson and Mr. Percy Hutchinson have acquired from her the whole of the towns not reserved for her own tour.

Miss Julia Nelson's health is not sufficiently recovered to enable her to play in the next year, when Mr. Fred Terry returns, after a prolonged tour, to the New Theatre to produce "Mr. Devereux's often-promised play, "Henry of Navarre."

Owing to Miss Ward's tenancy at Terry's Theatre expiring, the run of "The Three of Us" will terminate on Friday. In response to several requests, the management will be given on Thursday, and applications for seats should be addressed to the manager.

A misunderstanding has crept into the announcements with regard to the Court Theatre's arrangements at the Court Theatre. Although negotiations are proceeding with regard to a season of the Pioneer Society, matters have not yet been concluded.

Next Saturday brings to an end the run of "Getting Married" at the Haymarket, which, remaining closed thereafter until Aug. 1, will then be reopened by Mr. Harry Delon, who will play the rôle of the character identified with them.

The company to be associated with Miss Marie Delon in the new musical play which Messrs. Edgar Smith and Maurice Levy are writing for her re-appearance in London during the coming autumn will be made up of American and English artists. The cast will include at least half a dozen stars, some of whom will be English favourites.

Charles Frohman presents Isadora Duncan, "The Dancer," as she is known in every European capital, at the Duke of York's Theatre to-morrow evening in a series of dances of classical nature, beginning with a selection from the dances and choruses of "Iphigenie en Aulide," by Gluck. During the week Chopin, Schubert and Beethoven will be illustrated.

Leading part in the Winchester pageant is "Satan," who, despite his fearsome personal equipment of wings, horns, scales, and serpent coils, is no lord of misrule, but an amiable maker, who plays the devil with the children after novel fashion by promoting their innocent revels and leading them to a pretty dance, to their hearty content.

Sir John Hare will appear for the last time in full meaning of the words in a Pair of Spectacles at the Garrick Theatre on Friday next. On that occasion, so fraught with pathetic sentiment, the play will be preceded by the veteran comedian's exquisite impersonation of the leary old comical Irish peer in "A Quiet Stubber."

The advent of Mr. Geo. Giddens as Christopher Podmore in Miss Ada Reeve's merry musical play, "Bunton and the Apollo Theatre," greatly strengthens an unusually strong cast. Mr. Giddens reveals in the character of the Puritanical colonial broker who sneers at the fascinations of "The Witch," and becomes a veritable butterfly.

On Friday a matinee testimonial benefit to Mr. Walter Bessenden will be given (by kind permission of Mr. Tom R. Davis and Mr. Lewis Waller) at the Lyric Theatre. Among the artists who have kindly consented to appear are Mr. Lewis Waller, supported by Messrs. A. E. George, Chas. Rock, and Shiel Barry in a scene from "The Explorer"; Mr. J. A. Welch, with Miss Audrey Foster in "The Man in the Street"; Miss Fanny Ward in an act of "The Three of Us"; and Mr. Fred Edwards and Miss May Edouin in "The Dancer."

Mr. J. H. Leigh has parted with his lease of the Court Theatre to Miss Moulton, to be opened by this lady as a house mainly devoted to production of dramatic plays, with special reference to the Pioneers. This club of amateurs will give six performances weekly, three in the afternoon and three at night, for the purpose of raising money for the interesting to watch this novel departure in theatre management, part of whose scheme is to give high class orchestral concerts on Sunday afternoons.

When Mr. Forbes Robertson enters upon his tenancy of the St. James's for the autumn on Tuesday, Sept. 1, he will open his season with a new play by Mr. J. E. Jerome, founded upon a story of his own, published several years ago under the title of "The Passing of the Third Floor Back." Besides himself Miss Gertrude Elliott will be prominent in the piece, but as the heroine, this part being assigned to Miss Alice Crawford, with whom will also be associated, amongst others in the cast, Miss Haldie Wright, Miss Kate Bishop, Messrs. Marsh, Alan Robertson, E. Saxe and E. Hendrie.

## VARIETY STAGE.

A youthful equestrienne, Miss Violet Hughes, gave an interesting demonstration of her power over horses at Hengler's Circus yesterday.

Robert Stiehl, the famous German Humorist, makes his first appearance in England at the Alhambra to-morrow night.

The new arrivals at the London Hippodrome this week are the Imperial Russians, the Lorch Family and Lorde and Tilly.

At the Standard to-morrow Mr. Stafford Smith, who was for many years associated with Mr. Wilson Barrett, will produce a dramatic episode written by him, entitled "The Shadow on the Blind."

A proposition to extend the term of applications for licences from Sept. 1 of

each year to Oct. 1 was passed at the last meeting of the London County Council.

A new conventional playlet will be presented at the Tivoli to-morrow. The title is "La Double Epave." In this will appear Paul Franck, one of the cleverest pantomimists in France, and Colette Origny will make her debut here.

Tschakovsky's famous Case-Noteties in which are introduced the fanciful dances of the Sugar Plum Fairy and Arabian and Heedpipe dances, are to be interpreted by Miss Maud Allan at the Palace Theatre to-morrow week.

To-morrow, besides several other important changes, Miss Alexia, the whirlwind dancer, will present at the London Pavilion her sensational creation, "The She Devil and the Demon," with which she has produced quite a furore in America.

The Canterbury Bazaar, a genuine attraction in London, in four gorgeous scenes, Miss Beaumont Collins makes her first appearance in the House of Terror, and Audley Comedy Co. will present "Parker, P.C.," a laughable absurdity.

Miss Maud Fulton, with Mr. William Ro-k, will present their unique songs, dances, and quick changes at the Palace

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## A WIDOW'S CLAIM.

## LATE MR. ADNEY PAYNE'S PROPERTY.

In the Probate Division Sir Gorell Barnes had before him the case of Payne and another v. Payne, which concerned the estate of Mr. Geo. Adney Payne, the musical proprietor, who died on May 1907. Plaintiffs, Mr. Walter Payne (a son) and Mr. Walter Gibbons, propounded a will dated May 19, 1904, under which the widow received no benefit. Defendant, Mrs. Payne, the widow, set up a will which she said was made later in the same year, under which the property was equally divided between her and Mr. Payne's four children, although this document could not be found. Mr. McCall, K.C., for Mrs. Payne, said she was formerly on the stage as Ethel Earle, earning about £50 a week. When she married Mr. Payne, in 1899, she gave up her profession, at his request, he saying he had provided for her.

Mr. Payne's son, Mr. Walter Payne, a barrister, had, counsel stated, opposed his father's marriage. In 1902, owing to differences, Mrs. Payne brought proceedings for a judicial separation, but, meeting her husband a few months later, they became reconciled. In May, 1904, the plaintiffs propounded a will, but after this, the widow said, another will was executed by her husband, and it was kept in a safe at the Herne Bay house, where he lived. After the death of Mr. Payne, following on a motor accident, when his wife was driving him, it could not be found. Mr. McCall answered to his last point that Mr. Walter Payne had made away with the will. Ultimately a settlement was reached. It was agreed that the widow's costs should come out of the estate, and all the imputations were withdrawn. The will of May, 1904, was formally proved and pronounced for.

Mr. Walter Gibbons desires to state that he has had no litigation of any kind whatsoever with Mrs. Payne.

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## THE QUEEN MOBBED.

## SURPRISE VISIT TO THE WHITE CITY.

Her Majesty the Queen paid a surprise visit to the Franco-British Exhibition on Friday afternoon. Her Majesty, who was accompanied by Princess Victoria, paid her entrance fee at the turnstiles, and went in with the general public. They spent a considerable time in the Palace of Fine Arts, and on coming out proceeded to the Lacon Restaurant, with the intention of having luncheon there. Her Majesty readily accepted an official invitation to lunch at the Royal Pavilion. Later, the royal party, accompanied by Sir Dighton Probyn and the Hon. Charlotte Knollys, visited the scenic railway. The crowd, who had been looking for the party, had to be kept back by the police. The Queen and Sir Dighton Probyn took their seats on one of the cars of the miniature train, Princess Victoria and Miss Knollys being seated a little way in front of them. The remaining seats of the cars were promptly filled by the general public.

Her Majesty's concern. The Queen appeared to enjoy the run thoroughly, and was also very much amused at the crowd which had collected round the railway. She repeatedly pointed out to Sir Dighton Probyn, as they were going round, the people standing below. When the royal party left the cars they were surrounded by the throng, who paid little attention to appeals made to them to stand away, and her Majesty was much concerned lest anybody should be knocked down by the chair in which she was travelling. So closely did the people press round the Queen that Sir Dighton Probyn had repeatedly to shout to clear the people from his path. Once when in rather concerned tones he called to a woman who was right in his path, "Look out, my good lady, please get out of the way," the Queen turned

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## IN THE COURTS YESTERDAY.

### STORIES TOLD TO MAGISTRATES AND CORONERS.

#### King's Bench Division.

**"CINGALESE" SEQUEL.**  
Before Justice Darling, Mr. Edw. Spence applied for judgment on behalf of defendant in the case of Coffin v. Fraser. Plaintiff was Mr. Hayden Coffin, the well-known actor-singer at present appearing in "Butterflies" at the Apollo Theatre. Mr. Dalry, appearing on behalf of plaintiff, said three years ago Major Fraser's introduction to Mr. Edw. Spence was brought about by Mr. Hayden Coffin in connection with a remuneration for Coffin had brought the present action, which was in form, to recover one-third of the £3,000.

—Counsel said he supposed he might say that Mr. Coffin was riding for a fall. He hoped that if it were shown that he had no right to recover a third of the £3,000, it would also follow, and show that he had not entered into this arrangement to give an introduction for a reward. —Counsel then read the terms on which the action was to be assumed:—

Plaintiff admits that he had no right of action against the defendant in respect of the agreement set forth in defendant's letter of October, 1907, which suggested that he was entitled to one-third of £3,000 damages. The defendant admits that there was no suggestion for such introduction.

—Judge: It seems to me such a complicated way of arriving at such a simple result. —Mr. Dalry: That is so. But Mr. Coffin felt this matter very much, and was very indignant about it, and wanted it brought about in a public way. —Judge: Well, he has got that, and everybody seems satisfied that his introduction of Capt. Fraser to Mr. Geo. Edwards was a matter of friendship and not of reward, and anybody who thinks differently has no ground for that opinion. —Action formally dismissed.

#### Gulldhal.

**FOR SAUSAGE MEAT.**  
One fat of old horses was disclosed when Wm. Randall, 40, a carman and contractor, of Walthamstow, was charged with cruelty to a horse by causing it to be worked in an unfit state. —The evidence of P.C. Perry, who stopped the animal on the Bridge, showed that the horse was very lame, and quite unfit for further work. —Mr. Dudgeon, veterinary surgeon, said the horse ought to be at once killed. —Alderman: Will you consent to have it killed? —Defendant: Well, no. But I guarantee that it shall not be worked any more. —Judge: I will keep him, but I want to make the most I can out of him. —P.C. Perry: He wants to send it over to Amsterdam to go for sausage meat abroad. —Fined 10s., and 10s. costs.

#### Mansion House.

**ALLEGED INCIDENT TO STEAL.**  
"Be lenient with me. I have a wife and one child. I am only a young man. Be a father to me; I have never done any wrong before." This was the appeal made by Harry Rosenberg, 24, Currier, who, with his brother, John Rosenberg, 22, appeared before the Lord Mayor charged with inciting John Scott to steal skins belonging to his employers, Messrs. Langdon and Co., of King-st., Cheapside. —Det.-sergt. Chapman said on Friday he was in Queen-st. with Det.-insp. Lyon when he saw the man Scott with four furs in his possession and followed him to the Mansion-house, where he entered. When he came out Scott made a statement, in consequence of which witness and Insp. Lyon went to the third floor, where they found the two prisoners. —"We are police officers," Insp. Lyon said, "and have reason to believe you have just bought some skins from this man," pointing to Scott. —"He has brought me skins," said Harry. Insp. Lyon said, "We shall search this place," to which Harry remarked, "You can do as you like about that." Going to a bench against which the two men were standing, and pushing them aside, witness opened a drawer, and took from it four skins. "What do you want to tell me for?" witness said. —Harry then asked witness to treat him leniently. He said he had paid Scott 10s. for the lot. John said, "I know nothing about it." —Remanded, last refused.

#### Bow-street.

**LADY AND COMMISSIONER OF POLICE.**  
Mrs. Watson, who some years ago brought an unsuccessful breach of promise action against a gentleman who, in his magisterial capacity, visited her when she was in Lewes Prison, said she wanted a summons against the Commissioner of Police. —Mr. Currie Bennett: You must put all the facts on paper, and leave it here for me to read. —Mrs. Watson: It is a serious case, and I want more than I have done.

**CHARGE AGAINST A BANKRUPT.**  
Wm. Arnold Bailey appeared to a summons charging him with failing to disclose to his trustee in bankruptcy a certain portion of his property amounting to about £50. —Mr. Wallace, for the Treasury, said the proceedings were taken by order of the Court of Bankruptcy. Defendant was formerly a baker carrying on business in Sun-st., Waltham Abbey. In August, 1907, he sold his business to Mr. Stracey, £250. The money handed to him included four £50 bank notes. On the following day defendant went to the Bank of England and changed these for smaller notes. He was afterwards adjudicated a bankrupt, and failed to disclose to the trustee all the money he had in his possession. When he found that it was known that he had money he paid two sums in, but it became necessary

to obtain a search warrant. The warrant was executed at a public-house at Waltham Abbey, where he was staying, and he then produced £25. —Defendant said he had now paid in all the money in his possession, and was very sorry he did not do so before. —Committed for trial, bail allowed.

#### Middlesex Sessions.

**TRASHY LITERATURE.**  
In sentencing two boys, Pdk. Geo. Terry and Jno. Hy. Wilson, both aged 15, to 12 months imprisonment for housebreaking at Wood Green, who appeared to have been reading cheap literature dealing with stories of burglaries, Sir R. Littler said he strongly suspected that prisoners had been reading some rubbishy literature, and he wished people could appreciate the mischief done by those who published such stuff. It did more real harm among boys than could be possibly imagined. It was a scandal that such literature should be sold broadcast amongst boys. It was simply sold for a miserable gain—a farthing a copy—or something of that kind, and it did incalculable mischief.

**AN EVERGREEN FRAUD.**  
"I beg your pardon, my lord, I have a pardon, honestly," said Chas. Marsh, 47, a seaman, who was found guilty of obtaining money by fraud. —Sir R. Littler: Your record shows that you haven't for the last three years. You will have a chance of working at any rate for the next three years. —Accused's modest operandi was to call on persons in Enfield and Barnet and represent that he was collecting for the Fire Brigades for those districts. By this means he obtained various sums of money, being eventually caught by a constable who suspected him, whilst walking towards Enfield. —Sir R. Littler passed sentence of three years' penal servitude to be followed by two years' police supervision. He said he thought the Fire Brigade fraud was exploded, but judging by the prisoner's conduct it did not seem to be so. Accused had previous short sentences for similar offences, and that seemed to be a case for a severe sentence.

#### Thames.

**SECRETARY SENTENCED.**  
Formerly secretary to a friendly society, Geo. Slater, 43, a labourer, of Latimer-st., Stepney, was charged with stealing £12, the monies of the Harbours of Lorne Lodge of the Oddfellows Friendly Society. —Mr. Phelps, prosecuting, stated that prisoner was at one time secretary of the branch of Oddfellows which held its meetings at the Green Dragon public house, Spring Garden-place, Stepney. In April, 1906, a loan of £20 was lent to one of the members of the lodge, and this was to be repaid in two years with 25 interest. One of the trustees of the lodge received three sums in three instalments from the member to whom the loan was granted, and these amounts were handed over to accused. On Sept. 23 last prisoner was suspended and requested to hand all books and monies over to the treasurer. The latter received the books but no money, and on investigation it was found that there was no reference in prisoner's books to the monies paid over to him by Mr. Francis, the trustee. —Jas. Ed. Johnston, treasurer of the branch, admitted, when questioned by accused, that he had refused money from him as at that time it "was a great temptation for a working man to take so much money home." —Det.-Horne said when arrested prisoner replied "Very well." —Six weeks in the second division.

**THE "MARRIAGE" OF BECKY.**  
A story of a "make believe" marriage was partly unfolded when Marks Weiss, 31, a Roumanian subject, of Back Church-lane, St. George's, was charged on a warrant with procuring for improper purposes Rebecca Zimmerman and Rebecca Lebosky, both of whom are under the age of 21. —Det.-insp. Wensley asked that evidence only of arrest should be taken, that the police could have legal aid. —Det.-sergt. Gooding said when the warrant was read over to him, prisoner replied, "I did not take the girls to Portsmouth; they took me. They went out on the street but they did not give me much money. They spent it when they came home. I took 'Becky' to be married in Blackfriars to please her, but it was only make believe. I cannot marry. My family won't let me. I went before the Rabbi but she was not there." —Remanded.

#### Westminster.

**SEIZURE OF SELLS.**  
Insp. Williams, one of the officers of the Westminster City Council under the Food and Drugs Act, asked Mr. Smith to condemn a number of cels which had been taken from a purchaser at Robertet, Pimlico, the previous evening. They had been previously exposed for sale on a counterpane's barrow, one or two live ones being among them. After looking at the cels the magistrate condemned them as unfit for food.

#### WEEK-END AT BRIGHTON.

As a sequel to a week-end trip at Brighton, Alf. Hill, 33, in the employ of Messrs. Smellie, ironmongers, of Rochester-row, was charged with, and pleaded guilty to, stealing 19s. 6d., the money of his employers. Prisoner also admitted having had other small amounts, and stated that he spent the money. He went to Brighton "on the spree," as he put it to Det. Currielius, who arrested him. —Remanded.

#### Marylebone.

**A CHANCE ACQUAINTANCE.**  
A bold defence was offered by Richd. Brown, 28, painter, of Hall-rd., Paddington, who was charged with stealing a silver sauce boat, worth £2 17s. 6d., belonging to Dr. J. Berkart, of 71, Wimpole-st., W. —Mr. J. Lane-don, the landlord of the Norfolk Arms, Burwood-pl., Edgware-rd., said

prisoner the previous night asked for the loan of 5s., and tendered a silver sauce boat as security. Witness lent him the money. Upon reflection, however, he formed the opinion that an article of this sort was not likely to belong to a working man, so he communicated with the police. —Det. Inness said he went to Burwood-pl. with the last witness and arrested prisoner, who said, "I did not steal that; it was a loan from Miss A. Robinson, of 71, Wimpole-st." She gave it to me last night to raise a few shillings. I was to bring it back at 10 o'clock on Saturday night. —Eleanor Robinson, housemaid to the prosecutor, stigmatised the assertions of prisoner as absolutely untrue. She said that prisoner before, but only three times. —Accused cross-examined the housemaid. It was untrue, she said, that the prisoner was in the kitchen of her master's house on Thursday night. The area gate was open, and he got as far as the area door. "Last Sunday week," she added, "I was out with you, and you took 2s. 6d. and some coppers from my pocket. When I asked you to return it you said you wanted to test me." —Remanded.

#### West London.

**LADY'S ADVENTURE.**  
A lady's story was told when John Pieroth, 18, gas-fitter, of St. Ann's-rd., Notting Hill, was charged on remand with wilfully damaging a dress to the extent of 4 guineas, belonging to Mrs. Hutchence, of 25, Eardley-crescent, Earl's Court. —Mr. L. Smith defended. —The lady stated that as she was going along the subway at Earl's Court railway station defendant came up behind her and deliberately threw some green paint over her dress. —Accused protested that it was an accident. —Mr. Leslie Smith called witnesses to show that the lady was twining a bottle of paint in his hand at the time. —The magistrate accepted that version of the affair and discharged defendant, whose father paid for the damage done to the dress.

**BURGLARY AT A FLAT.**  
The magistrate committed for trial Wm. Geo. Barrett, 40, a painter, living at Comer-rd., Fulham, on a charge of breaking into 12, Dorset Mansions, Lillie-rd., Fulham, and stealing a jacket, vest, silk handkerchief, ten cigars, etc., belonging to the occupier, Mr. H. J. Bodman. Mr. Bodman was away on a holiday when it was alleged, the caretaker, Mrs. Shinn, said, that the prisoner had been in the flat at once examined the flat and found that from Mr. Bodman's front door a large square of glass had been removed and the two locks had been pushed back. He went after prisoner and had him arrested by P.C. Chinn. In his possession were found the above-mentioned articles. —Mr. Bodman stated that every drawer in the flat had been opened and the contents scattered about.

#### Tower Bridge.

**NAME AND ADDRESS REFUSED.**  
Refusing to give either his name, address, or occupation, a smartly-dressed young man was charged with stealing from a bedroom at Camillia-rd., Bermondsey, a Post Office savings bank book and a pair of opera-glasses, value 6s., belonging to a fellow-lodger, named Frank Osmond Gannell, a clerk. —Mr. Herman Gannell, from the Goldsmiths' department of the G.P.O., said prisoner had been identified as a man who had drawn £10 by forgery. —Prosecutor said he had known prisoner since June 22. He missed his bank book and opera-glasses on the 27th, when prisoner went out and did not return. On Friday witness found him detained at the G.P.O., and charged him. —Remanded.

**WIDOW IN A CISTERN.**  
A curious case was heard when Rebecca Whitfield, 75, widow, independent, was charged with attempting to drown herself in a cistern at her lodgings in Southwark Park-rd. —Mrs. Hooper, a neighbour, said prisoner had been depressed since the sudden death of her husband last Christmas. She lodged with witness's son and his wife, and while the son was dressing at his bedroom window he called out, "Oh, mamma, the old lady is in the cistern." Witness and her daughter ran upstairs, got out of the window, and saw prisoner lying in the cistern, nearly suffocated, and clad only in her nightgown. They pulled her out, and sent for a doctor. She was quite sober. Prisoner, who seemed rather shaky, told the court that she had nothing to say. —Released on her own recognisances.

#### Old-street.

**"LITTLE ANGEL" CHARGED.**  
Little Christopher Regan's eight-year-old head could scarcely be seen by Mr. Biran, when the "little angel," to use the father's description of him, was charged with stealing a postal letter belonging to the Postmaster-General on June 26. —He was seen by two witnesses to put his hand and arm through the letter-box of the sub-post office in Green-st., Bethnal Green, and abstract a long foot-long envelope. Two older boys were with him, and sitting down on a doorstep they investigated the contents of the envelope. Suddenly Christopher was seen to "jump for joy," but his joy was short-lived, for the sub-postmaster had been communicated with, and, being directed to where the boys were sitting, he went towards them. The older boys made off, but Christopher remained, and was seized with the letter-containing the envelope. 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## OUR IMPERIAL SERVICES

### NAVAL, MILITARY, AND CIVILIAN.

#### THE LOWER DECK.

##### The Summer Manoeuvres.

Last week quite an Armada of warships began a series of manoeuvres in the North Sea. The fleet, under the command of Lord Charles Beresford, with over half a dozen junior flag officers as his assistants. The manoeuvres and exercises carried out on such occasions, impressed as they are, are of a healthy rivalry between ship and fleet, and of the advantage to the officers and men; while the experience of the oldest admirals in the fleet, the State regarding the working out of particular areas of waters, and the operations of the fleet, has been the case since our fleet engaged with the fleet of the North Sea. The manoeuvres are of great importance to the fleet, and the State regarding the working out of particular areas of waters, and the operations of the fleet, has been the case since our fleet engaged with the fleet of the North Sea. The manoeuvres are of great importance to the fleet, and the State regarding the working out of particular areas of waters, and the operations of the fleet, has been the case since our fleet engaged with the fleet of the North Sea.

##### Employing Pensioners.

Notice their lordships are reverting, to a large degree, the old pensioners of the Navy, and the Navy generally, from a fair number of such skilled and unskilled work as they can perform in dockyards and other naval establishments. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable.

##### Earlier Retirement.

A red-hot topic with the commissioned officers and warrant officers of the Navy, and now in that of earlier retirement, so that they may be able to take advantage of the pension. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The pensioners are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable.

##### Colonial Seamen.

It is good to notice that a second batch of Naval Reservists from Australia recently arrived in England for a course of training. The reservists are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The reservists are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable. The reservists are to be employed at these places in much larger numbers than in the past, and it is in my opinion, that the advantages of employing pensioners in the fleet are considerable.

##### Chinese Merchant Sailors.

According to our excellent sailing contemporary, "The Seaman," which represents the interests of the merchant seamen in the Press, Chinese men are being used by other countries than our own. Mr. Havelock Wilson, the British M.P. for the Mersey, has been in the habit of visiting the Chinese men who are being shipped by British firms. One of the principal reasons for the use of Chinese men is that they are a very large percentage of them do not understand the English language, whereas the Merchant Shipping Act distinctly lays down that the supercargo must be able to read and explain to each seaman, or they shall be liable to a fine. The Chinese men are being shipped by British firms, and they are being shipped by British firms, and they are being shipped by British firms.

##### The Man Behind the Gun.

##### THE BARRACK-ROOM.

##### Non-Coms. of the Gymnastic Staff.

Now that the authorities are about to take serious steps with a view to improving the position of non-coms. throughout the Army, and to give them greater facilities for rising to commissioned rank, I heartily recommend to their attention the N.C.O.'s of the Army Gymnastic Staff. They have only two W.O.'s and four M.R.'s, and are the only non-coms. in the Army who are not employed in permanent, or semi-permanent, billets at the barracks, but who are employed in the barracks, and who are employed in the barracks, and who are employed in the barracks.

##### Hotter Gunners.

The importance of the howitzer in active service has never been more keenly realised than during the last few years. The howitzer is a very important weapon, and it is very important to have a good howitzer. The howitzer is a very important weapon, and it is very important to have a good howitzer. The howitzer is a very important weapon, and it is very important to have a good howitzer. The howitzer is a very important weapon, and it is very important to have a good howitzer.

##### Soldier-Telegraphists in India.

I suppose it is the result of our campaign on the frontier, but I have received a number of letters from men who wish to know what the pay and prospects of soldier-telegraphists in India are. The soldier-telegraphists in India are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good soldier-telegraphist. The soldier-telegraphists in India are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good soldier-telegraphist. The soldier-telegraphists in India are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good soldier-telegraphist.

play," etc., holds very good in the case of the fighting man. Just now the War Office has sent round to the C.O.'s of the various regiments, a list of the men who are to be employed in the recreation rooms of the rank and file, and the sergeants' messes, and if they think it advisable that billiard-rooms shall be fitted up for the use of the men, the charge for which will be against public funds. I think C.O.'s will be unanimous in welcoming this happy signal of the official desire to improve the means of amusement for the fighting man.

##### A Popular Send-off.

There was a great send-off in Wellington, New Zealand, for a party of British soldiers who were going to the front. The soldiers were given a very warm welcome, and they were given a very warm welcome. The soldiers were given a very warm welcome, and they were given a very warm welcome. The soldiers were given a very warm welcome, and they were given a very warm welcome.

##### THE SECOND LINE.

##### Abstentionist Territorialists.

Although the actual number of those who are abstentionist Territorialists is not large, they are a very important part of the Territorial Force. The abstentionist Territorialists are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good abstentionist Territorialist. The abstentionist Territorialists are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good abstentionist Territorialist. The abstentionist Territorialists are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good abstentionist Territorialist.

##### Units Not Yet Recognised.

There are still some units of the Territorial Force which have not yet been recognised by the War Office. These units are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good unit. These units are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good unit. These units are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good unit.

##### What I am Told.

That the bill has now been finally passed, and that the Territorial Force will be a very important part of the Army. The bill has now been finally passed, and that the Territorial Force will be a very important part of the Army. The bill has now been finally passed, and that the Territorial Force will be a very important part of the Army. The bill has now been finally passed, and that the Territorial Force will be a very important part of the Army.

##### OUR CIVIL SERVANTS.

##### "The King's Customs."

I have had an extraordinary pleasant time with a book called "The King's Customs." The book is a very interesting one, and it is very interesting to have a good book. The book is a very interesting one, and it is very interesting to have a good book. The book is a very interesting one, and it is very interesting to have a good book.

##### Ex-Volunteer Reserve.

Col. Charles Ford writes: "I have been very much interested in the Ex-Volunteer Reserve, and I have been very much interested in the Ex-Volunteer Reserve. The Ex-Volunteer Reserve is a very important part of the Army, and it is very important to have a good Ex-Volunteer Reserve. The Ex-Volunteer Reserve is a very important part of the Army, and it is very important to have a good Ex-Volunteer Reserve.

Final struggle two years in succession—was knocked out in the second round by Yorkshire, in spite of two more centuries by the batsmen, and the bowlers were not in a state of mind to play. The batsmen were not in a state of mind to play, and the bowlers were not in a state of mind to play. The batsmen were not in a state of mind to play, and the bowlers were not in a state of mind to play.

##### Lord Roberts's Boys.

Mr. Hanson, the devoted hon. sec. of the Lord Roberts's Boys, has been very successful in his efforts to raise money for the boys. The Lord Roberts's Boys are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good Lord Roberts's Boys. The Lord Roberts's Boys are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good Lord Roberts's Boys.

##### Cyclist Sections.

The Army Council has decided to sanction the raising of cyclist sections in the Territorial Force. The cyclist sections are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good cyclist section. The cyclist sections are a very important part of the Territorial Force, and they are very important to have a good cyclist section.

##### A Good Conference.

The National Rifle Federation's first conference, held at the Royal Victoria Hotel, was a very successful one. The conference was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good conference. The conference was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good conference. The conference was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good conference.

##### Choice of the Team.

The committee have chosen the team for the Olympic Games, and they are very happy to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team.

##### At Home.

Familiarity with the range is a decided handicap in favour of the competitor. It was shown at the very successful meeting of the North-West Middlesex Rifle Club, which was a very successful one. The meeting was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good meeting.

##### The Welsh Miniature R.A. Meeting.

Two of the competitors—W. E. Pinn and A. W. Wilde—have the time and means to attend meetings in the provinces. Both went to the meeting of the Welsh Miniature Rifle Association last week, and they were very successful. The meeting was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good meeting.

##### The Queen's Cup.

A. G. Banks, last year's winner of the Queen's Cup, which is a very important trophy, is a very good shooter. The Queen's Cup is a very important trophy, and it is very important to have a good Queen's Cup. The Queen's Cup is a very important trophy, and it is very important to have a good Queen's Cup.

##### National Competitions.

The Astor Cup competition is being conducted in 27 counties. With some clubs, as Harborne, which have won the Astor Cup every year, the event makes a very important part of the National Rifle Federation's programme. The competition is a very important one, and it is very important to have a good competition.

##### Ladies' Trophy.

has somebody devoted the application of the actual pillory for the purpose of punishing the delinquents. The pillory is a very important part of the law, and it is very important to have a good pillory. The pillory is a very important part of the law, and it is very important to have a good pillory.

##### The Watchers.

With regard to the position of the watchers it may be remembered that about two years ago a committee was appointed to advise the best means of finding a way out of the present employment, and that one of the recommendations was that many of these men should be employed in the Territorial Force. The watchers are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good watcher.

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##### Ladies' Trophy.

sent. In a little talk which I have had with the secretary of the Joint Committee, I was told that a cordial invitation was sent to the Territorial Federation to contribute to the fund. The Federation is a very important part of the Army, and it is very important to have a good Federation.

##### CITIZEN RIFLEMEN.

##### The Clubs.

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##### Open Shots Defeated.

The fact must not be overlooked that members of rifle clubs are accustomed to sharpshooting, and probably more about rifle shooting than many of the Territorial Force. The members of rifle clubs are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good member of rifle club.

##### Olympic Team.

The international rifle shooting competition in connection with the Olympic Games will be decided at Bisley next week, and much anxiety is felt as to the performance of the British team. The British team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good British team. The British team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good British team.

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30/- SUITS THAT SAVE YOU 15/-

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The committee have chosen the team for the Olympic Games, and they are very happy to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team. The team is a very good one, and it is very good to have a good team.

##### At Home.

Familiarity with the range is a decided handicap in favour of the competitor. It was shown at the very successful meeting of the North-West Middlesex Rifle Club, which was a very successful one. The meeting was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good meeting.

##### The Welsh Miniature R.A. Meeting.

Two of the competitors—W. E. Pinn and A. W. Wilde—have the time and means to attend meetings in the provinces. Both went to the meeting of the Welsh Miniature Rifle Association last week, and they were very successful. The meeting was a very successful one, and it was very successful to have a good meeting.

##### The Queen's Cup.

A. G. Banks, last year's winner of the Queen's Cup, which is a very important trophy, is a very good shooter. The Queen's Cup is a very important trophy, and it is very important to have a good Queen's Cup. The Queen's Cup is a very important trophy, and it is very important to have a good Queen's Cup.

##### National Competitions.

The Astor Cup competition is being conducted in 27 counties. With some clubs, as Harborne, which have won the Astor Cup every year, the event makes a very important part of the National Rifle Federation's programme. The competition is a very important one, and it is very important to have a good competition.

##### Ladies' Trophy.

30/- SUITS THAT SAVE YOU 15/-

##### CITIZEN RIFLEMEN.

##### The Clubs.

Although the Surrey County Association has been very successful in its efforts to raise money for the clubs, it is very important to have a good club. The clubs are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good club. The clubs are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good club.

##### Open Shots Defeated.

The fact must not be overlooked that members of rifle clubs are accustomed to sharpshooting, and probably more about rifle shooting than many of the Territorial Force. The members of rifle clubs are a very important part of the Army, and they are very important to have a good member of rifle club.

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##### Ladies' Trophy.















## THE TURF.

By "LARRY LYNX"  
(W. LOTINGA).

Ca. That the Newbury executive committee  
Ca. to be independent is an emphasis  
Ca. of the times as to their success  
latest decision is that after the  
this year gentlemen will not be en-  
as heretofore to the club enclosure  
visitors unless they are guests of

The Alfriston cross-country race will be held in the Brooks, close to the village, next Wednesday. There are three challenges, cups, a juvenile open to those under 18 who are bonafide residents of any of the 8 villages. The "Wargrave" Challenge Cup for adult residents, Lord Mham's prize, is to be competed for by stable lads in the employ of any training in the county of Sussex. There is a new event, the "John Bull" Challenge Cup, which is open to bonafide players of all subscribers to any of the

here to announce the abandonment of this year of my usual charity cricket match at Kensington Oval, which now become quite an institution. It would not be in 1907, my intention is to continue it, but this season is totally expected obstacles, making the match practicable, dropped up. Hitherto date has been the Monday in the 31 July week, usually the first few days in July. This year, however, the Monday fell in June, and therefore necessitated a change of date, and I have now placed it at the Oval. In consequence Sunday C.C.C. committee who have

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**"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.****PARAGRAPHS FROM ALL PARTS.**

In London, 2,497 births and 991 deaths were registered last week. The 991 deaths included 28 from measles, 7 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 11 from whooping-cough, 3 from enteric fever, and 21 from diarrhoea.

Different forms of violence caused 53 deaths, of which 15 were cases of suicide and the remainder attributable to accident or negligence. In Greater London 3,552 births and 1,422 deaths were registered. Allowings for increase of population, these numbers are 3 above and 188 below the respective averages in the corresponding weeks of the previous five years.

The deaths registered last week in 76 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to a annual rate of 11.8 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 16,234,952 persons in the middle of this year. In the preceding three weeks the rates had been 12.7, 11.8, and 11.6.

Fire destroyed the girls' home at the Homes for Epileptic Children, Langfield, Barry.

General Booth was summoned at Marylebone Police Court in respect of certain unsafe houses in Lisson Grove, adjoining a Salvation Army shelter. An order was made for the danger to be removed within 21 days.

Marylebone Borough Council have decided to refer to a committee the question of the removal of the flower-sellers from Oxford Circus.

The women, on whose behalf it will be represented, Mrs. Aquilith intervened, will, it is stated, have to wait a fortnight before knowing whether they will be allowed to remain.

**THREE MILES FOR A HALFPENNY.** Halfpenny tramfairs for the whole length of the tramway routes, some of which extend for three miles, have been introduced in Hull. They are charged between 5 a.m. and 9 a.m.

**SCHOOLGIRL'S BRAVERY.** Dorothy Coalter, aged 10, a Teddington schoolgirl, was presented by the vicar with a certificate of the Royal Humane Society for having recently rescued from drowning a little girl.

**WAR ON PESTS.** An exhibition representative of the efforts that have been made by man to destroy rats, mice, sparrows, flies, ticks, and other pests will be held early next year under the auspices of the Society for the Destruction of Vermin.

Sir Thos. Lipson has decided to concede all the New York Club's demands in order to challenge for the America Cup.

A verdict of found drowned was returned at an inquest on Jno. Freeman, seaman, whose body was discovered in Swansea Dock.

Children under 12 are now carried at half-price on the Charing Cross and Hampstead, Piccadilly, and Bakerloo "tubes."

Geo. Knott, boilermaker, was at work in Portsmouth Dockyard when an empty wheel broke. Pieces struck him in the face and head, inflicting fatal injuries.

Mr. Aquilith told a deputation of London Medical M.P.s who waited on him that he hoped next session to make substantial progress with the reform of London government.

Mr. John Hopkins, a well-known Berkshire agriculturist, residing at Grounds Farm, Uffington, when crossing the G.W. Rly. near Uffington, was knocked down by an express and killed.

In connection with the Oxford Diocesan Missionary Festival a charming pageant was given by children in Chipping Garden at Windsor Castle. The children, attired in costumes representing all parts of the globe, presented a most picturesque spectacle. Many bishops from over the seas were present.

**MOVING!**

Mr. Ignatius Dracopole, of the Ritz Hotel, London, was at Haywards' Heath fined £20 and costs for aiding and abetting Wm. Turner, his chauffeur, to drive a motor-car at a speed estimated at between 40 and 50 miles an hour. Turner was also fined £20 and costs.

**A LONG-LOST WANT.**

The following advertisement appears in a Hungarian journal: "Experienced person has opened a school for all those who desire to perfect themselves in the art of being humorous. Dry intellectual humor taught, as well as ordinary witicism of daily life. Demonstrations in practical jokes if desired."

**£1,000 IN FINES.**

The fines imposed upon motorists by the Kingston county justices for the offences committed since the beginning of the year in the metropolitan police portion of the petty sessions division, apart from the Surrey constituency area, total £1,025 up to the other day. The number of motorists convicted was 229.

Marylebone County Court judge has decided that acceptance money could not be recovered at law.

At Bow-st., Hy. Hill, a foreigner, was committed for extradition on the charge of forging and uttering French Renten coupons in France.

The Cunard liner Lusitania, which is in dry dock at Liverpool, is being fitted with four-blade propellers in place of the three-blade ones. Failing between the platform and a train at the Mansion House Station a little boy received a severe electric shock.

Fourteen women, most of whom were English, were among the 130 Alpinists who climbed to the summit of Mont Blanc last year.

In the naval manoeuvres of the Russian Black Sea Fleet at gunnery drill no single gunner on any single ship succeeded in hitting the target.

Two women who appeared in very striking Director's gowns at Coney Island, New York, were nabbed by a crowd and the police had to protect them.

Relics of ancient Egypt discovered by Prof. Petrie at Memphis and Ankhnes are being exhibited by the British School of Archaeology at University College, London.

London bookmakers have decided to appeal against the decision of the Recorder in the case of the Old Bailey last week affecting the London and Holland betting system.

By command of the King, the pictures by the Baroness von Preuen, now being exhibited at the Newman Art Gallery, Oxford-st., were sent to Buckingham Palace for his Majesty's private inspection.

Through bad trade, an Islington tradesman, Fdr. Grover, 47, Cabot-st., committed suicide in a most determined manner, first drinking poison and then cutting his throat. The jury found he was temporarily insane.

**ICECREAMS FOR DOGS.**

A fashionably dressed woman drove up to a store in Newport, Rhode Island, ordered two icecreams, and placed them before her pet dogs. She was very indignant when the manager interfered.

**JUDGE AND CAR-HORSE.** "I cannot say now that I am in a fit state to resume work, but, like the cab-horse, when once in the driver I must go on," said Judge Edges, on taking his seat at Clerkenwell after his recent serious illness.

**AUSTRALIAN TRADE.** According to the trade returns just issued, the Australian Commonwealth imports in May amounted to £2,340,713, being a decrease of £385,033 as compared with May, 1907, while the exports amounted to £2,822,283, being an increase of £390,563 as compared with May, 1907.

At a special meeting of the general council of the Victoria League it was decided to amalgamate the league with the League of the Empire.

Fifty-five horses which have been used by Mr. Alfred V. Vanderbilt to work his Ventura coach were sold for 2,459 guineas at Tattersall's.

During the hearing of a shoplifting case at the N. London Police Court, Det. Sgt. Schales said he was in the shop, and acted as a shop-walker, on the day of the offence.

The death is announced of Mr. H. J. Kreson, who for 37 years, under the pseudonym "Ugolino," had contributed to "The Queen" newspaper.

The Hitchin justices have granted a license for the performance of stage plays in an open-air theatre at the Garden City, Letchworth.

At Bucks Quarter Sessions Wm. Adams, a labourer, was sentenced to 12 months' hard labour for attacking and attempting to rob a girl cyclist on the highway.

The death occurred in Liverpool Southern Hospital of Jno. Cain, a University student, who was badly injured when thrown from his bicycle in Grosvenor-st., while attempting to turn off the tram track.

The personation of a dead soldier in order to get his pension was alleged at Westminster Police Court, where Richard Hawkins and Mary Condon, a labourer, were remanded, charged with being concerned in attempting to obtain £4 by means of a forged life certificate.

The Local Government Board has decided to remit the surcharge of £7,116 made upon the treasurer of the Tottenham Education Committee in respect of the committee's overdraft, and the London and Provincial Bank will now find the money for the salaries of teachers and other officials.

**MUMMY WITH THE GOUT.** The foot of an Egyptian mummy who evidently had the gout was exhibited at the ladies' conversation of the Royal Society at Burlington House. The foot showed the calcareous secretions that cause gout, and it is regarded as the earliest known instance of the disease.

**NO RAILWAY STRIKE.** All fears of a strike on the N.E.R. are now at an end, the men, by 4,004 votes to 2,149, having decided to accept the proposal of the executive—that the all-grade committee should negotiate with the railway officials for the formation of a conciliation board.

**"CARELESS EXALTATION."** According to a report submitted by its experts to the New York Public Service Board, the recent increase in the number of accidents to persons boarding or alighting from tramways is due to a "certain physiological condition of careless exaltation attendant on somewhat excessive good cheer on outings."

Field-Marshal Sir H. Evelyn Wood will be Gold Stick, and Col. G. F. Milner Silver Stick, in Waiting on the King during this month.

As more than £100,000 has now been subscribed to the Oxford University Re-endowment Fund, Mr. W. Astor has sent his second donation of £10,000 to Lord Curzon, the chairman of the fund.

Two hundred Criméan veterans, some on crutches and others assisted by their grandchildren, were entertained at a banquet by Blackpool-Corporation.

Vicar of St. Aldwyn, P.G.M., Gloucestershire, laid the foundation-stone, with masonic ceremonial, of a new church at Upland, Stroud, which is being erected at a cost of £7,000.

Mr. W. Hodgson, an angler, was drowned in the Usk at Aberavenny. While standing on a pier of the bridge he slipped into the water, and was carried by the stream to a deep hole, from which efforts were ineffectually made to rescue him.

"Street betting has enormously increased in St. Helens. Every bookmaker's scout finds that his master is making a good thing out of it, so starts for himself," said a police officer at St. Helens, where eight men were fined for street betting.

Alice Evelyn Weare, 31, milliner, was cleaning a pair of gloves with some petrol, near which was a lighted candle. Shortly afterwards she was found in flames, and she died some days later from shock. A verdict of accidental death was returned at Clare, Suffolk.

The House of Commons team at Bletby was beaten last year by the House of Lords. In the hope of turning the tables this year, the Commons team have erected a sub-target machine (as used in the Army for training recruits in rifle shooting) in one of the corridors of the House, and they may be seen constantly practising.

**A HEALTHY BISHOP.** "Although I have not been ill for 19 years, I have the greatest admiration for the medical profession," said the Bishop of London at St. Mary's Hospital, on whose behalf he is making an appeal for £50,000.

**FATE OF CROSBY HALL.** It has been definitely decided to transport the remains of Crosby Hall from the City, and re-erect the hall at More's Garden, Chelsea Embankment, where it will form part of the University Hall scheme.

**HEROISM REWARDED.** The King has awarded silver medals to Lieut. J. Sliver and several members of the crew of the s.s. Cymric in recognition of their rescuing the survivors of the crew of the s.s. St. Cuthbert, which was abandoned on fire in the North Atlantic Ocean.

Mr. Plowden has just entered upon his 21st year as a metropolitan police magistrate.

Next Wednesday will be the 72nd anniversary of Mr. Chamberlain's birthday. Many happy returns!

"Volunteer Shortage" is announced to be the topic this (Sunday) evening at St. Mary-at-Hill, Monument, E.C.

West Ham Guardians have agreed to pay their late clerk (Dr. F. E. Hillery), who held many local offices, a pension of £1,164 6s. 9d. per annum.

Sir Horace Plunkett was fined at Marylebone for driving his motor-car in Regent's Park at over 17 miles an hour.

Hy. Hogg, 43, commercial traveller, died from injury caused by being struck on the head by a cricket ball on Moor Park, Preston.

Mr. Aquilith has promised to receive a deputation of those interested in the promotion of penny postage between Britain and France.

Maj. Little, on making his last appearance as Chief Constable of Preston, asked for clemency for a woman who was charged with drunkenness, and she was discharged.

A terra-cotta bust of a lady, by Martin, 1791, which in the Hamilton Palace sale in 1882 sold for £241, realised £2,730 at Messrs. Christie's rooms.

Mr. English Harrison, K.C., has been re-elected chairman; Mr. Levett, K.C., vice-chairman; and Mr. F. E. Method, treasurer, of the General Council of the Bar for the ensuing year.

Col. H. V. Cowan will retire early in September from the post of commandant of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, which he has held for a period of five years, and will be succeeded by Col. A. Graham Thomson, Royal Engineers.

**AROUSAL BY DOGS.** Mr. and Mrs. Pyson Johnson, of Rehillton, Birkenhead-avenue, Kingston-on-Thames, were awakened by the barking of their dogs, and their house in flames. They had just time to escape in their night attire.

**LEAP FROM A JETTY.** A man named Charles Howe, a French publisher of Walsworth, who has been living recently in Margate, committed suicide from the jetty. He first threw his hat and stick into the sea and then jumped after them. Although at once rescued, artificial respiration proved ineffective.

**SCOTCH COPPER MINE TO BE REOPENED.** The Enrick Copper Mine, near Gatehouse, South of Scotland, is to be reopened. The mine 50 years ago was closed by the landed proprietor with a view to preserving the pleasantness of his residence. Samples taken by a London engineer, it is stated, show almost 25 per cent. of good copper.

Sheerness Gunners School has been closed, and its 300 blue-jackets transferred to Chatham.

Mr. H. T. Chapman, at present assistant county surveyor for Lancashire, has been appointed county surveyor for Somerset.

An open verdict was returned at Morley in the case of Mrs. Anne Richardson, whose mutilated body was discovered in Morley Tunnel.

It was announced at a meeting of the L.C.C. that it was proposed to proceed at once with the electrification of two North London tramways.

Accidentally struck on the head by a ball while playing cricket at Beckenham, P. S. Dearlove succumbed to his injuries.

Mr. David Davies, M.P., has introduced into Parliament a Bill providing for the compulsory acquisition of sites for places of worship.

Citizens' league of welcome for immigrants to Australia have been established in Perth, Melbourne, and Brisbane, and Sydney will soon follow suit.

At a special meeting of members of the Institution of Electrical Engineers it was decided to purchase as headquarters the Medical Examination Hall on the Embankment.

While being hauled up an incline at the Deep Pit Colliery, near Bristol, the coupling of a tram broke, and a miner named Wm. Palmer, who was sitting on it, was hurled to the bottom and killed.

Queensborough, Kent, has been chosen as a suitable spot for the erection of a large German factory. It is also understood that several German firms are making inquiries concerning the Rushdown estate, which adjoins Queensborough.

Much damage was done by a "cloud burst" at the village of Pontmahre, four miles from St. Jean, d'Arrieux, in France. The village was half-buried in mud, a bridge was carried away, and two railroads sustained damage by the mud and debris brought by the torrent.

**MAGISTRATE'S FORTUNE.** Mr. E. N. Fenwick, the Bow-street magistrate, whose estate was valued for probate at £19,588, left the whole of his property to his nephew, Mr. R. E. Fenwick, absolutely.

**PARK HOODLARS FINED.** Frank T. Dawe and Ernest Green were each fined £1 at Marlborough-st. Police Court for annoying people who were listening to the Sunday evening band in Hyde Park.

**DAMAGE BY FOXES.** Complaints are more frequent than ever of the destruction wrought by foxes in West Dorsetshire. At a farm near Broad Windsor recent damage caused by a fox was estimated at £11 in the morning and killed five fowls, in spite of the fact that the farmer and dairyman were at the time close at hand.

NEXT WEEK, "WHEN THE OLD CHURCH BELLS ARE RINGING." SONG BY MISS ROSE HAMILTON.

**"PADS," THE CRICKETER.**

SUNG BY GEORGE MOZAR.

This Song may be sung in public without Fee or Licence, except at Theatres or Music Halls. For permission, to sing apply Musical Editor "The People."

Words by CHRIS. DAVIS.

Music by HARRY RUSHWORTH.



Kat G.

1. I'm Cap-tain of the Codham Crick-et Club, prapose you've all heard of my



fame. I'm a per-fect mar-vel in my way, and I al-ways play the game, It is a

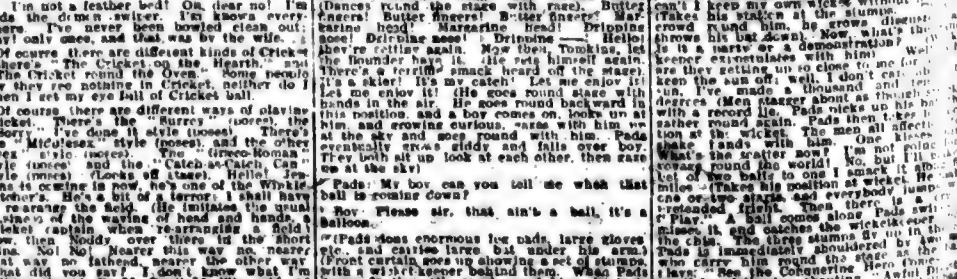
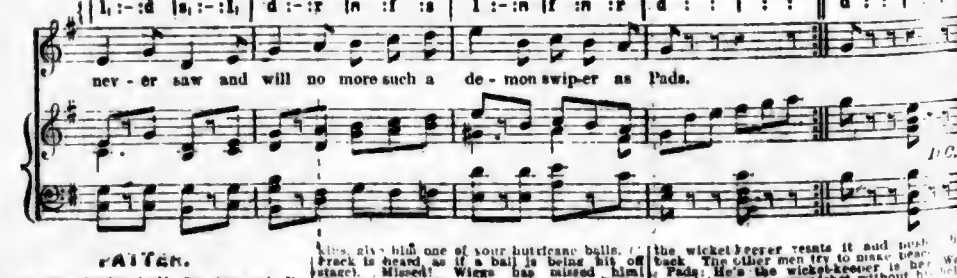
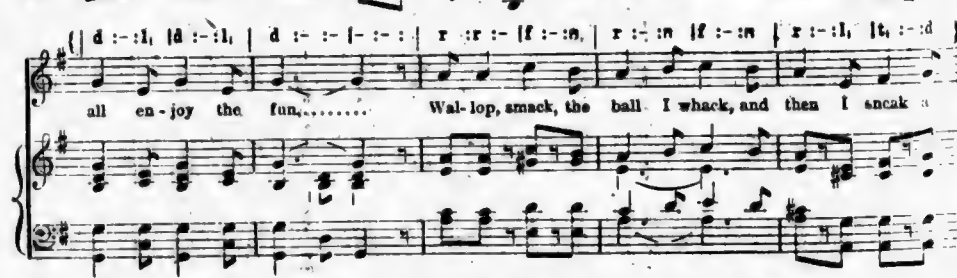
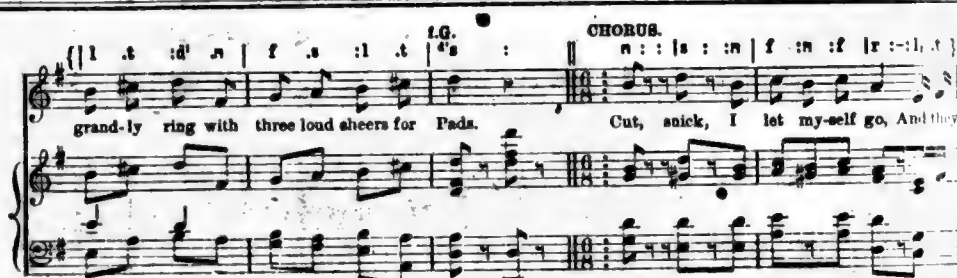


most soul-stir-ring sight..... to see me greet-ed by the lads,..... And hear the wel-kin



FAITHFUL. I'm not a feather bed! Oh, dear no! I'm Pads the Crick-et, I'm known every-where. I've never been bowled clean out; I've only once, and that was by the wife. Of course there are different kinds of Crick-et, there's 'The Crick-et on the Heath,' and 'The Crick-et round the Oval.' Some people say they're nothing but Crick-et, other say when I see my eye ball of Crick-et ball.

Of course there are different ways of playing Crick-et. There's the Surrey (local) the 'Bobby' I've done it style (times). There's the 'Middlesex' style (times), and the other way 'The Crick-et' (times). The (three-honour) style (times) and the 'Catch-a-Catch-a-Catch-a' (times). (Times of times). Hello! Jack is coming in now, he's one of the White-catchers. He's a bit of a terror. I shall have to rearrange the field. (He imitates the usual business of the wicket-keeper and hands a ball to the batsman.) Now then, Noddy, over there in the short line. No! No! Nearer this way no, nearer that way no! I don't know what I'm talking about! Do I? Don't I? Who said so? (The wicket-keeper utters a cry of alarm.) Golden! Now he's getting set, now then, Tom!





## A CALLOUS CRIME.

## YOUNG GIRL'S TERRIBLE CONFESSION.

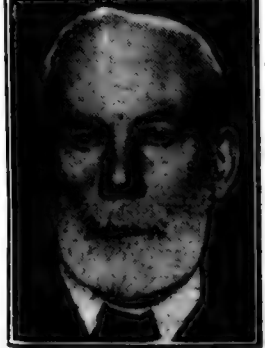
Frederick Baier, the pretty 22-year-old daughter of the late Burgomaster of Freiburg, in Saxony, the killing of her fiancé, a young man named Presler, under circumstances of deliberation and premeditation, which have probably never been surpassed in the history of crime. According to her own confession, she called on her fiancé, and told him that she had brought him a surprise from her father. He was to permit himself to be blindfolded, and she was to hang him. He allowed her to do so, and when he was blindfolded, she placed the muzzle of a revolver on his lips and pulled the trigger.

Went to a Party. The girl went on to a party at Freiburg, whence she telephoned home to her mother that she was enjoying herself very much. The next day, the body of the young man was discovered in the forest. It was six months after the murder before the girl was arrested, but she confessed her guilt without the slightest hesitation. From her cell, however, she managed to smuggle to her lover, a merchant named Merker, a letter directing him how he should murder two women whose evidence was likely to prove awkward. It was at first supposed that Merker was concerned with the amiable Grete, but the murder in which they were at first believed to be implicated was entirely his own plan. The idea put forward by the prosecution was that the murder was committed out of motives of cupidity, but the accused, in the course of a long narration, delivered with perfect self-possession, tried to make out that she had engaged her fiancé to Presler against her inclination, and that her object in killing him was to get back her old lover, Merker, with whom she had long been on terms of the closest intimacy. Prisoner now described the murder in a somewhat different manner. After telling how she set out with a bottle of poison, which she had previously stolen from a drawer in Presler's room, and a revolver, she continued:

At Chemnitz Presler met me at the station. He had bought cake, and we went straight to his rooms, where he asked me to make coffee while he fetched cream, which he knew I liked. Then we drank coffee together. I did not put the poison in the coffee. I drank that myself as well. Therefore, I had to leave it to chance. Presler was, moreover, very attentive, and after the coffee he invited me to drink a glass of egg cognac. I refused, whereupon he said I might, at any rate, pour out a glass for him. I did so, and quickly let the poison drop into it. Then I stirred it several times with a spoon, which in my excitement I very nearly put to my lips. But I remembered in time. Meanwhile Presler sat on one side on a lounge chair. I went to him, and he was aggressive, and tried to draw me on to his lap. He was very passionate, and his face was very distorted that it filled me with disgust and horror. Not quite knowing what I did, I reached him the cognac, and said, "Here, drink." He took the glass, and emptied it at one draught. He had hardly put it down before he fell over. What next happened I remember only dimly in my memory. What followed I did mechanically. I did not believe that Presler was dead. I thought that he would come round again and would then have dreadful pains. So I took a serviette, tied it round his head—why, I do not know, but his eyes were shut—placed the revolver right into his mouth, which was open, and pressed the trigger. He uttered a terrible cry, and then I knew that he was dead. In spite of the appalling nature of Grete's crimes, the impression made by the case on the jury was such that they unanimously resolved to petition for a commutation of her sentence.

## VETERAN SWIMMER.

Mr. J. Barker, a veteran of 76, who has been a regular bather in the Serpentine for the last 45 years, winter



MR. J. BARKER.

and summer, noticing that the annual veterans' swimming race was to be held on the same day as he celebrated his 75th birthday, he determined to enter. This he did, and succeeded in winning in fine style from a large number of competitors. Mr. Barker is in business as a portman, and no one is to see him would take him to be 75 years of age. He attributes his good health to the constant efforts of swimming, which he considers the finest exercise in the world.

Devon County Show at Plymouth resulted in a profit of about £300.

## STOLEN JEWELS.

## LIABILITY OF HOTEL PROPRIETORS.

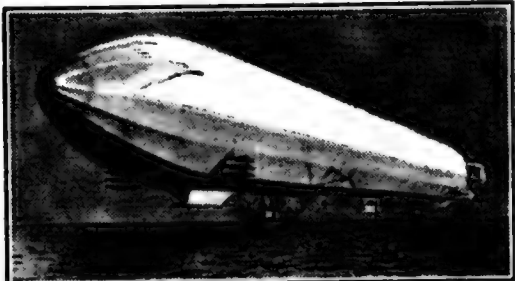
An appeal to the House of Lords against a decision of the judges of the Extra Division of the Court of Session in Scotland raised an interesting question. Plaintiff and appellant, Mr. G. W. Whitehouse, a manufacturing jeweller and diamond mounter in Birmingham, employed a traveller named Buckley. It was in respect to the loss of a bag containing samples valued at about £1,500, which Mr. Buckley had with him while staying at defendants' hotel—the Imperial, Market-st., Edinburgh—that the action was brought. Mr. Buckley, who had been in the habit of staying at the Imperial, was known both to the hotel proprietors and to their servants, was met at the hotel by the porter, who took his sample bag out of his hand along with another bag containing his personal effects, and put them in the bar-room in a place where they would be safe from interference by outside persons.

Professional Thieves. At night when Mr. Buckley asked for the sample bag it had disappeared. It seemed certain that a theft had been committed by three professional thieves, who had taken up their headquarters as visitors at the hotel, and who had watched an opportunity to make off with the bag. The Scotch courts held that plaintiff had failed to establish a case against the hotel proprietors. The Lord Chancellor said he should move their lordships to dismiss this appeal, for he thought the appellant had not shown that the bag had been expressly deposited with the hotel proprietors "for safe custody," nor had he shown that the property had been lost through the neglect of the innkeepers. The facts proved were equally consistent with loss by methods which implied no disregard of reasonable care. The other noble and learned lords agreed with the appeal being dismissed.

## WONDERFUL AIRSHIP.

## COUNT ZEPPELIN'S FLIGHT OVER SWITZERLAND.

Count Zeppelin has achieved a great triumph with his new airship, making a record trip of 12 hours' duration over Switzerland. Thousands of holiday-makers in and inhabitants of Switzerland watched the Count's flight. The ship left its shed on Lake Constance, with its inventor



THE AIRSHIP HOVERING OVER LAKE CONSTANCE. (Photo, Hamilton.)

in command and a company numbering about a dozen on board. It travelled to Schaffhausen, and then in the direction of Bern, on to Lucerne, and finally visited Mount Pilatus before going back to its home at Friedrichshafen. The flight occupied altogether 12 hours, and the Count seems to have had his huge airship well in hand all the time.

ROYAL VOTAGE. The King and Queen of Wurtemberg have enjoyed a trip in the airship, being the first Sovereigns to make such an ascent. Reports from Friedrichshafen describe the King as being delighted with his half-hour trip, and as warmly shaking Count von Zeppelin's hand as he stepped out of the airship car on to the deck of his steamer as easily as if he were leaving a railway carriage. His Majesty travelled with the inventor in the forward car, and his adjutant, General Biesinger, in the rear car. The airship executed various evolutions in the air above Friedrichshafen Castle and park, where large crowds hailed it with frantic cheers and the waving of handkerchiefs, to which the King responded by fluttering his own handkerchief. When the airship returned to the lake it embarked the Queen, a Maid of Honour, and a Chamberlain, and again manoeuvred over the Castle for half an hour. According to the "Lokalanzeiger," the following is the text of the Emperor's telegram:

I rejoice from the bottom of my heart at your splendid success, and shall continue to stand at your back. Best wishes. (Signed) WILLIAM.

## RATING OF CHAPELS.

Proceedings were taken at Marylebone yesterday to make the pastor and deacons of what is known in Nonconformist circles as an "institutional" chapel, jointly and severally responsible for the rates imposed on the chapel building. The proceedings were undertaken by the Paddington Borough Council, and were directed against the Rev. W. J. Potter, the pastor, and Daniel Andrews, Matthew Boon, W. Summers, A. Berridge, T. Hodgins, E. Mord, and W. M. Jones, deacons of the West London Baptist Central Chapel, in Westbourne-grove, W., who were called upon to show cause why the names of the deacons should not be inserted in the borough rate made on April 13, 1907, as the names of the occupiers of the chapel at the time when the rate was made. As a result Mr. Potter ordered that the names of the deacons to be placed on the rate-book, with the exception of that of Mr. Summers, who was not appointed a deacon until after the rate had been made.

DOMESTIC TRAGEDY. A domestic tragedy came to light yesterday. The previous evening a publican named Hy. Cole, of the Cottagers' Comfort, at Kinton, near Louth, Lincolnshire, shot his wife with a gun, wounding her in the neck, and then shot himself dead. The injuries to the woman are not of a serious nature. No reason is ascribed for Cole's conduct.

## DELUDED WOMEN.

## AMAZING CHARGES OF BIGAMY.

An extraordinary story was told to the Huddersfield magistrates when a middle-aged man named Jas. Walker, described as a Bristol confectioner and doctor, had four specific charges preferred against him. They were: Stealing £50 from Fanny Henderson Davis, of Southport, stealing £25 from the same person, making a false declaration of marriage; and bigamy. Mr. Sykes, who prosecuted, said in regard to the charge of bigamy the "marriage" took place on Dec. 19, 1892, at St. Peter's Church, Newcastle. On that date prisoner, giving the name of Harry Archibald, went through a form of marriage with a lady with whom he had been acquainted for about two months. He stated that he was a farmer belonging to Tilbury, Ontario. He and the young woman resided in furnished apartments. A fortnight after the marriage, prisoner, proceeded Mr. Sykes.

Drugged the Woman. With chloroform, and absconded, taking with him £20, and some articles. The Newcastle police held a warrant for his arrest. His wife now resided in New Jersey, U.S.A., and it would cause some difficulty and delay in dealing with these charges. The next heard of him was in March, 1898, under the name of S. Lawrence. He married a lady near Lancaster, representing himself as a doctor from America on a holiday. He deserted her at Preston a week after the marriage, taking with him all her jewellery. The next marriage of which there was a record was in Huddersfield, on Oct. 8, 1897. He then gave the name of James Walker, stating he was a bachelor and a physician. The marriage was by licence, and it was during the honeymoon that the charge of bigamy, which was now before the court, arose.

Traced to Hull. Prisoner, it was alleged, took £25 belonging to this lady. He deserted her in Edinburgh, and was traced to Hull, where he said to her that he had been very ill, and relations were resumed between them. Arrangements proceeded for their journey to New York by the Baltic on Jan. 9 last, but on the morning of that day he again deserted her in Liverpool. On March 3, this year, prisoner, giving the name of Arthur John Ford, and describing himself as a solicitor,

## A FICKLE LOVER.

## DETAILS OF METHODOICAL COURTSHIP.

There is no end to the humour of defendants in breach of promise cases. Thus, Mr. Dumas is no doubt a "prize not life" at the pick-up game, but in the Sheriff's Court he was the source of inextinguishable laughter. The suit of Miss Tilly Standen against him for breach of promise had gone by default, and the parties were before a jury for the assessment of damages. Then Miss Standen's counsel exposed the ridiculousness of the unsympathetic audience Thomas Henry's little pocketbook, with the alphabetical index, in which in happier days he had inscribed the items with which he intended to garish the happy home. With praise of Thomas Henry's thrift and methodical habits, counsel went through the little book.

Item—A Black Cat. Under "A" was the entry "album," and under "B" "black cat." Under the heading "album," the first item was a black cat. A black cat is notoriously unlucky, and the fact that it was inscribed under "album," instead of properly under the letter "C," was no doubt responsible for breaking off the match. Counsel narrated the progress of the courtship, which showed that Thomas Henry and Tilly were at one and the same time in the service of Lady Lettice, and became engaged at Christmas, 1903. They exchanged rings, and down to January, 1908, were considered engaged.

Defendant's Letters. Many letters were written by defendant. On July 1 last he wrote: "I do like to be with you so very much, dear, and I shall be glad when I can have you, dear, for I do look forward to the time, dear, and I know that you do as well, dear, and we shall be so happy, together, dear, for we shall be together then."

In another letter he wrote: "I shall be so glad when the next holiday comes round, for then you will be my darling wife, and I will take care of you. There were numerous crosses at the end of the letter. Epistles of this character continued to be written by defendant down to last November, and on the 9th of that month he wrote: "I am tired of being single and I know that you are tired of being single, dear, but I must cheer up, for the year will soon slip by now. We will have a nice little home, and I will be to you, dear, as a husband. We shall have up all our old pennies now, dear, for it will take a lot of money, dear, to make our home look nice, but we are neither of us extravagant, and we are always trying to save, and we have got a good lot of odds and ends between us."

Settled from the House. It was in January last that defendant met plaintiff with indifference. On being asked the reason he said, "Oh, well, I am getting tired of you. The sooner you forget me the better it will be." He ignored one letter asking for an explanation, but, in response to a second communication, asked plaintiff to meet him. He was, however, very uncommunicative, would not go for a walk, and only saw plaintiff portion of the way home. Her father asked him to come to his house, and on March 18 he was induced to go to plaintiff's home at Cambs. On being asked there to give an explanation he picked up his hat and bolted from the house. Plaintiff and her father and mother having given evidence, the jury assessed damages at £20, and judgment was entered accordingly.

## TRAVELLING THIEF.

## WOMAN WHO STOLE £19,000 SENT TO GAOL.

For stealing a trunk containing jewellery and securities of the value of £19,000, at Central Station, Manchester, on May 18, Margaret Gardiner, 42, lady's maid, was at Manchester sentenced by Justice Bucknill to 12 months' imprisonment. The trunk was the property of Dr. Billup, of Cambridge, and was deposited with other luggage in a guard's van. A few minutes before the train started accused told the guard she would not be able to go by the train, and on her request he removed the trunk to the platform. Gardiner took it away in a cab. She was arrested the following day at Liverpool with the trunk in her possession, and she had previously pawned some of the jewellery. There was a second charge against her of an exactly similar offence, committed at St. Pancras Station, London. On that occasion the bag of which she obtained possession contained a considerable sum of money, and there was in it a Post Office Savings Bank book. By the use of the



MARGARET GARDINER.

book she fraudulently obtained a sovereign from the Post Office. This charge was not proceeded with. Accused, who pleaded guilty, is a native of a village in Cambridgeshire. Several previous convictions for theft were recorded against her.

KILLED WHILE SHOT FIRING. William Smith, 56, ganger on the Great Western Railway, line extending at Steven, near Swansea, was killed while shot firing. A charge failed to explode until deceased was near it, and he was killed outright and mutilated. He was married, and resided at Steven.

## CHILD MURDERED.

## MOTHER FOUND WITH HER THROAT CUT.

A distressing domestic tragedy was enacted this week at Shankhouse, a mining village about four miles west of Blyth. The scene of the affair was 23, Railway-row, a three-roomed cottage occupied by a miner named Reay and his family. It appears that Mrs. Reay and her 16-week-old baby boy, Thos. Palmer Reay, were left alone in the house on Wednesday evening. About six o'clock Reay went into the village for a walk, and the other children, five in number, were left out. Three of them were playing at the house of a neighbour named Lockyer. When Reay left, his wife was having tea, but she complained of being unable to eat anything. The baby was in the cot asleep. About eight o'clock one of the children, Robert, aged six years, who had been playing, went home, but he returned, and said there was a pig lying on the floor in his mother's house. No notice was taken of the boy's statement at the time.

A Sad Tragedy. However, was revealed at 8.45. Mr. Reay, on going home for his supper, was shocked to find his wife lying on a mat in the kitchen between the bed and the front door. She was in a pool of blood, her clothing and the mat being saturated with it. She was alive, but apparently in a state of collapse. Her throat was badly gashed. By her side lay the child, whose head was almost severed from the body. It appeared to be dead. A blood-stained razor was lying near the woman. Taking in the situation at a glance, the distracted husband shouted to Mrs. Lockyer for assistance. Mrs. Reay never spoke except to say that she felt a little better. Dr. Forsyth, a local practitioner, was speedily summoned, and he found Mrs. Reay to be in a serious condition from

Shock and Loss of Blood. caused by the injuries to her throat. He stitched the wounds. The child was beyond aid. It was fully dressed, and so was Mrs. Reay. The child is said to have been weakly from birth. Its death is believed by the police to have been caused by the cutting of its throat with the razor found beside Mrs. Reay. Mrs. Reay had been in an indifferent state of health for some time past. She had scarcely taken anything to eat this week. A short time before the tragedy was committed, she had been visited by Nurse Seal. The injured woman lies in a precarious condition.

## THE HOUSE OF DEWAR

THE record of a successful business always makes pleasant reading, especially when the success has been won in the face of the keenest competition from business rivals. One feels that a success of that kind is thoroughly well deserved. Tuesday, May 12, was a red-letter day in the history of the success of the House of Dewar, for on that day the new Dewar House, Haymarket, was formally opened.

The name of Dewar has become such a household word wherever people are sufficiently civilised to be able to appreciate whisky that it is difficult to believe that the firm of John Dewar and Sons, Limited, of Perth and London, is only sixty-two years old. Moreover, the London branch of the firm is much younger, for it is only twenty-two years ago since Messrs. Dewar came to the Metropolis with the object of establishing a London and export trade. At that time—1886—the popular drink was still brandy, and the man who went into a bar with the object of buying a glass of whisky was usually asked whether he preferred Scotch or Irish. Seven years afterwards the change in the public taste became noticeable, and nowadays the man who goes into a bar for whisky means by whisky, Scotch whisky.

## Thanks to the Doctors.

It is generally understood that this change in the public taste was due partly to the doctors. Medical men ordered their patients to take a little whisky, and the advice—and the whisky—were soon taken by others who were not patients. Men were not slow in discovering that in whisky they had an economical drink which suited their constitutions, and so the popularity of whisky soon became assured.

Even the Scotsman who originated the saying, "All whisky is good, but some is better than others," would have to admit that the whisky of to-day is vastly better than the whisky of thirty years ago. In all probability the public would have taken to whisky much sooner than they did if distillers had not persisted in offering them a very heavy malt whisky. The whisky of to-day is a much lighter and pleasanter drink, and the change is largely due to the enterprise of the firm of John Dewar and Sons, Limited, who have succeeded so well in gauging the public taste.

## The Growth of the Business.

Starting twenty-two years ago to work up a London and export business, Messrs. Dewar soon made this branch of the business turn the corner, with the result that there are now large centres for the distribution of the famous blend in New York, Sydney, Melbourne, Calcutta, Barbados, and many other places, while as regards agencies it is no exaggeration to say that every town and village is looked after by an agent of the firm. The administration of the foreign business is conducted in London, but the spirit is despatched direct from Perth.

The head office of Messrs. Dewar in England is now Dewar House, Haymarket. The growth of the business necessitated the building of larger offices, but the old premises at Dewar's Wharf will still be used as a depot. This will be good news to many Londoners, for included in the wharf is the famous shot-tower, known to everybody for some years now as "Dewar's Tower," because of the sky-sign which announces in letters of

fire that that particular wharf is the depot of the House of Dewar in London. Those letters have helped to dispel the gloom of many a foggy night, and they will still be one of the landmarks of London, although the business of the firm will be carried on at the new establishment in the Haymarket.

## The New Premises.

Dewar House stands at the corner of Orange Street and the Haymarket. The houses which were pulled down to make room for the new building were of mean brick, and probably everybody who remembers them will agree that the new building is a vast improvement on the old ones. The architect, Mr. F. M. Elgood, A.R.I.B.A., had a free hand in the design. All that was asked was that the exterior should have a substantial rather than



Dewar House, Haymarket, London.

an ornamental character. The solid blocks of Aberdeen granite used in the lower portion of the fronts certainly impart a substantial appearance to the building, and they also help to remind one of the firm's close connection with Scotland.

Visitors to the new building can scarcely help noticing that the floor of the main hall is laid with rubber tiles, such as are now used in the best offices in America. The handsome bronze gates through which one passes to get to the upper floors of the building compel one's admiration, and a glance through the building suggests the thought that the various people who are going to work therein will certainly have the advantage of working amid very pleasant surroundings.

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## CRICKET.

## By SHORT LEG.

(Exclusive to "The People.") I view with a good deal of apprehension the resolutions passed at Lord's on Friday, at the meeting of the Advisory Committee of the County. My fear is that in their zeal for the triangular tournament, the counties are risking a serious estrangement with the Australians. Whether the triangular scheme is in itself desirable is a debatable question, on which I have my own private opinion, but I think most people will agree that to drag the Australians into the contest against their will is not a policy calculated to promote harmony and goodwill in the cricket world. It seems to me that the counties, by the action they have now taken, have shown a very decided bias in favour of the South Africans. The meeting on Friday was strictly private, and I have no scrap of information beyond the facts contained in the official report furnished to the Press by Mr. Lacey. I am sure that the resolution that the counties were in favour of the triangular tournament was carried by a large majority, and with that news we must, for the moment at any rate, rest content. I should, however, like very much to know the names of the counties whose representatives voted in the minority. I may be quite wrong, but I have an idea that in this matter some of the oldest and most influential counties have been over-ruled by force of numbers. As to the majority by which the second and much more drastic resolution was carried, nothing so far as I know, has compromised in tone, urging the M.C.C. to impress upon the Australian Board of Control that the feelings of the counties are so strongly in favour of the triangular scheme that the M.C.C. will not be in a position to invite any Colonial eleven here in 1909 except for the purpose of the tournament. The M.C.C. committee, I take it, will have to discuss this latest phase of the question of their weekly meeting at Lord's to-morrow, and I shall be curious to know what line they adopt. Being in possession of all the details of the voting on Friday, they will, of course, know whether the majority vote represents the opinion of the counties or whether that opinion has been overborne. I heard rumour on Friday of an amendment to the second resolution, Lord Hawke's name being mentioned in connection with it, but nothing definite could be ascertained.

The M.C.C., I think, are tried to deal diplomatically with the very delicate situation that has now arisen. They will realise that little good can come to cricket from forcing the Australians into a competition for which they have no inclination. I am both surprised and disgusted at the attitude that has been taken with regard to the Australians over this question. It has even been hinted by an over-zealous South African journalist that the Australians are afraid. Such an insinuation against the cricketers who have battled with England on even terms for thirty years is beneath contempt. This, however, is only an isolated charge emanating from a person of no importance. The general suggestion is that the Australians care nothing for cricket, and are concerned only about money. As to this point, I would only urge that they have no millionaire behind them ready, in the event of failure, to draw cheques for any amount of money that may be required. Knowing what they do about cricket in England, the Australians I think may well hesitate to come here with another first-rate team touring at the same time and visiting all the same towns. I read a good deal about the money the Australians make in England while passing as amateurs, but it is a little late in the day to raise this point. The anomaly has been accepted for a generation, and the hope of a trip to England has been largely instrumental in keeping up a regular supply of first-class players.

Not for many years has Gentlemen v. Players produced such a disappointing cricket as the match which ended in an easy victory for the Professionals shortly after seven o'clock on Friday evening. That the Players would win there was every reason to expect before a ball had been bowled, yet no one anticipated the Gentlemen would be so easily beaten. The failure extended to all points of the game, although the Amateur's bowling suffered less by comparison than the batting and fielding. Unhappily for the fielding, Gilbert Jessop and A. O. Jones both tried off, and Huthings, wired to at the last moment, failed to arrive in time, while neither H. H. Spooner nor B. K. Foster having taken part in first-class cricket this season, could possibly be given a place in the eleven. All these five cricketers are not only batsmen of a most attractive description, but every one of them is a more brilliant fielder than anybody included in the actual team. From the absence of so considerable a number of players possessed of exceptional qualities, the game was unfortunately to suffer in any event, and, unfortunately, while the bowling, without attaining to special excellence, proved fairly up to the average, the batting was quite unworthy of the traditions of match participation, which is rightly regarded as the "hall-mark" of cricket ability.

The struggle, indeed, yielded quite a crop of disappointments. Had Huthings, after being out of the cricket field for three seasons, succeeded in reproducing the delightful form he displayed for Sussex against Middlesex in the same ground a few weeks ago, there would have been some compensation, but his judgment was at fault when he got out on Thursday, and in the second innings, what looked like a most casual stroke, led to his dismissal. Bousquet, too, cut a poor figure. Crawford had to red content with a very moderate share of success, and neither Warner nor Gillingham played in anything like their best form. C. B. Fry certainly put together on Thursday an admirable innings—his lack of match

practice notwithstanding—and he started again in capital form on Friday, but the pleasure derived from seeing that great cricketer come off did not atone for the regret felt at the failure of so many of his colleagues. One might almost have given the Gentlemen their indifferent batting had they shown real brilliancy in the field, but in this department of the game, too, the amateurs scarcely attained to the average of a first-class county eleven. There were no glaring blunders, it is true, yet, on the other hand, only one or two recall a piece of work calculated to arouse local enthusiasm.

Whatever the shortcomings of the Gentlemen, several of the Players will be able to look back upon the contest with satisfaction. Fielder did not repeat his extraordinary feat of two years ago in taking all five wickets in an innings, but on a pitch which gave him some help, he bowled splendidly on Thursday and quite well the next afternoon. Albert Reif, spinning off the ground in exhilarating fashion, fully justified the invitation extended to him when Barnes dropped out, and the Harlequin included in the side owing to Hirst's need for rest rather than participation in what is generally an exhausting contest, signalled his first appearance for the Players at Lord's with an innings of 77, meeting with a success denied to his Nottingham colleague, George Gunn, who was one of the original selections. Hobbs, too, had special cause for satisfaction. Last year, starting with great recklessness, he failed badly, whereas last week he enjoyed quite a batting triumph. It should not be forgotten, too, that the Players lacked the assistance of Tyldesley as well as of Hirst. They could probably have accomplished more than they did if the need for it had arisen.

## GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND v. OXFORD UNIVERSITY.

A Draw. After a lot of heavy scoring—187 runs being hit up—except for a few hours had to be left drawn. On Friday the Gentlemen, in face of their opponents' total of 558, had scored 223 for nine wickets and half an hour's cricket yesterday sufficed to end the innings for 408. Altogether Leveson-Gower and Mollinson, who both batted extremely well, added 129 in 75 minutes for the last wicket. Going in again with a lead of 75 runs Oxford scored until 20 minutes to five, scoring 212. Apart from Bruce and Leveson-Gower, who added the second wicket, the batting was rather poor. Thus the Gentlemen had to get 220 to win, but they had not sufficient time in which to get them, and before the close they lost six wickets for 70 runs. Full score:—

GENTLEMEN OF ENGLAND.			
First Innings	Second Innings	Third Innings	Fourth Innings
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104

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H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
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First Innings	Second Innings	Third Innings	Fourth Innings
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B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
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G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
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G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104

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H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
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A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104

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B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104

## WARWICK v. HAMPSHIRE.

## Warwick Win by Six Wickets.

Warwickshire gained an easy victory over Hampshire at Birmingham by six wickets. When the game was resumed in the morning Hampshire were in an almost hopeless position, with six men out in their second innings for 100. They were only 10 ahead. Field again bowled with marked effect, and the four outstanding wickets fell for an additional only 35 runs. This left Warwickshire with 50 to get to win, and in accomplishing this simple task they lost four batsmen. Full score:—

WARWICKSHIRE.			
First Innings	Second Innings	Third Innings	Fourth Innings
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104

WARWICKSHIRE.			
First Innings	Second Innings	Third Innings	Fourth Innings
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	G. H. Wilson, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104	H. H. Spooner, c. Foster, b. Mollinson, 104
B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	B. K. Foster, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	C. B. Fry, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104	A. O. Jones, c. Mollinson, b. Mollinson, 104
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GENTLE  
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 AT WORK  
